

A true Description
OF THE
MIGHTY KINGDOMS
OF
J A P A N
AND
S I A M.

Written Originally in Dutch by
FRANCIS CARON
And
JOOST SCHORTEN;

And now rendred into English by
Capt. ROGER MANLEY.

L O N D O N; *Ad. 9^r 1189*

Printed by *Samuel Broun* and *John de l'Ecluse*, at
the Sign of the Queens Arms, near the little
North-Door of *St. Paul's Church*, 1663.

I Finde nothing in this Translation why it
may not properly enough be Printed,

Joseph Williamson.

By the appointment of the Right
Honourable Mr Secretary

Witchall November
10. 1662.

BENNET.



To my dear
BROTHER
Major *Francis Manley.*

Dear Brother,



He Dedication (as well as Writing) of Books being strongly varranted by Custom (the great Moderatour of our Affairs and Actions) it appeareth not injurious to me, that this Translation pass into the World under your conduct; whose pretentions as they stand fair to the Patronage of more sublime Labours, so I am assured they vwill not be wanting in their Indulgence to the Infirmities of this Trifle, upon which the Book-seller having prevailed

The Epistle Dedicatory.

With me to cast avay some spare hours, as a Complement to my Countrey (at least to his Interests) I was more easily tempted to undertake it, as what might be advertisement to you; so that how cheap soever it appear in it self, my dear Brother hath goodness enough to consider it, as exposing me to the censure of thousands upon the single account of diverting him alone; and that having been a principal design of my life, I make this address, where my affection, not my ambition, leads me.

For the Matter, it is the Author must stand accountable, not I; (and I can assure you, he is of a passable reputation in his own Countrey) but for the bad English, I hope a Fourteen years Exile may excuse the Errataes in our very Mother-Tongue. I will not further bespeak your protection, lest it be judged the effect of my importunity, and not your kindeness; I therefore commit you to Him, who hath preserved you and me, through no ordinary dangers, to see
the

The Epistle Dedicatory.

the Land of our *Canaan*, though not to
enjoy the fruits of it; but the happiness
of our Sovereign doth virtually com-
prehend in it that of all His Creatures;
in vvhich number as it is your honour and
mine, upon the score of an unalterable
loyalty, attended vwith many sufferings,
and our best services to stand ranked; so
is it my extream contentment and satis-
faction, that I may style myself,

Dear BROTHER,

Your most faithful and most
affectionate Brother, and
humble Servant,

Roger Manley.



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Perfeckte Kaert
vande gelegentheijdt
des Landts van
JAPAN.

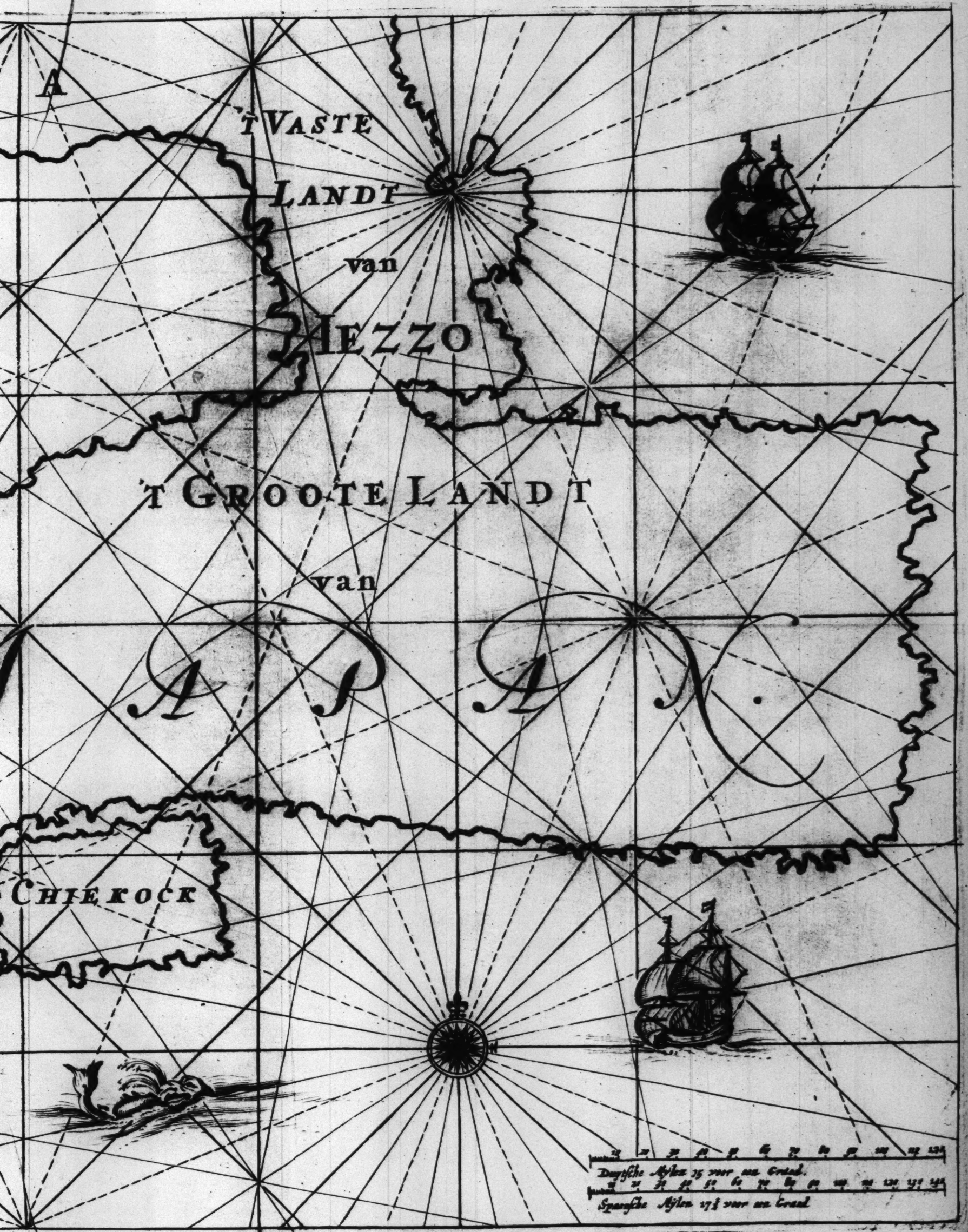
T A R T A R I



C O R E

SAYROCK

H





A True Description of the

Mighty Kingdomes of

IAPAN & SIAM.



Y fourteene yeares residence in the low Countreys, (I may rather say my banishment thither,) being upon the rendition of one of the Kings Garrisons, in the yeare, 1646 obliged by my Articles to depart the Kingdome within six moneths (As it hath, in some measure, furnished me with the knowledg of the Dutch tongue, so hath it given me roome to observe the indefatigable industry of that people, who all of them, in their severall stations, and according to their severall powers and capacities, doe unanimously conspire & cooperate to their support and growth in the World. And that I, by their example, or rather by the impulse of my owne *Genius*, may cast my mite, into the service of my Countrey, I judged it not wholly unprofitable to put this

A

short.

short relation of the Great Kingdomes of *Japan* & *Siam* into the English tongue, which for the vastnesse of those Territories (scarce knowne to us by name) The Reputation of the Authour (vvhose Collections are of great credit) But principally, as a spur to the Improvement of further discoveries & Traffik by my ovvne Couñtreymen, will not, I hope, be unacceptable to the Reader, who I wish may so far indulge the bad English of one almost degenerated into a forreigner, (at least in his language) that it may receive a faire acceptation, which is all I propose to my self in this matter. I am not ignorant that amongst the multitude of books, under which the Presse groanes, it is not enough, to write well. But I being restrayned to a Translation, must not pretend to rise higher then my fountayne head. And my Authour having made rather a collectiō then a History, wherein he seemes to affect truth and brevity, more then the ornament of words I thought it becoming me, if I would walke in his ground, to tread in his steps, wherein if you will please to divert your selfe I shall in his Person proceed to tell you.

How

*How great the Countrey of Iapan
is & whether it be an Island
or no.*

THe Countrey of *Iapan* is supposed to bee an Island, though there bee no certainty of it, this vast territorie not beeing yet wholly discovered to the inhabitants themselves. I have often enquired and been informed that Travellers have gone from the Province of *Quanto*, the principal of his Majesties dominions where in the Imperial Citie and Pallace of *Iedo* are scituated, 27 daies North-East wards, before they could reach the utmost point of the land of *Sungaer*, bordering upon the Sea; being come thither they passed over an Isthmus of thirty three English miles broad, leading into the Countrey of *Iezo* abounding in skins & furs of price. This territorie is very great, mountainous but litle inhabited. The *Iappaners* attempted its discovery severall times but in vaine; for though they entred to & fro, far into the Countrey, yet they could never find its end, nor any certainty concerning it, their provisions ordinarily failing them, which inforced their fruitlesse returns. The discoverers reports of these, were soe imperfect that his Majestie dispaired of any further Satisfaction, the countrey being presented

as desolate and unpassable, though in some place inhabited with a people all over hairy (wearing their Beards long, like the Chineses) brutish, though otherwise well shaped. To consider therefore the uncertianty whether this Countrey be an Island or no; wee may observe that the passage betweene *Sungaer* and *Iezzo* is no running water, but an Inlet or long Isthmus of the Sea it selfe, 120 English Miles long, extending it selfe betwixt *Iezzo* and *Iapan*, where it bounds upon vast mountaines and deserts, about the Province of *Ochio*; so that, that way being vvholly unpassable by land, travellers are forced to ferry over the aforesaid *Isthmus* from *Sungaer* to *Iezzo*, in Barkes and such shipping as they have: The two great Islands of *Chirkock* and *Saycock* are governed by Kings and Lords that share vvith them in the Magistracie. *Chirkock* hath one King and three Lords. *Saycock* being the bigger of the two, hath more Governours, but both are accounted Provinces of this great Empire, though least in extent of those whereof it is composed.

How

How many Provinces it containes.

That great Territory which we call Japan, & the inhabitants *Nippon*, borders upon those afore mentioned Islands and stretcheth to the unknowne Countrey of *Iezo*, & is divided into five Provinces, to wit, *Iam Aystero*, *Ietsengo*, *Ietsensen*, *Quanto* & *Ochiso*, the which, with the Islands of *Saycock* & *Chirkock*, make seaven in all, whose Dominions, Cities and Castles are subdivided under severall Kings and Lords as the following specification of the Revenue of the vvhole land abundantly sheweth.

An Extract of the Sealed accompts and specification of the Revenue (Excepting the Emperours) of the Kings Princes Dukes and Lords of Japan together vvith the names of their Countreys and Castles according to the Japans accompt in Cockyens each Cockyen being ten Carolus Guilders vvich is some Twenty Shillings Sterling.

Angano Tsunagon, King of Canga, Gesticu, & Natta, hath his Residence in the Castle of Canga, his Revenues amounts to 1190000.

<i>Surngano Daynangon</i> , King of <i>Surngo</i> , <i>Toto</i> and <i>Misannea</i> dwells in the Castle <i>Fays-fes</i> hath in Revenue	700000
<i>Ouvvarino Daynangou</i> , King of <i>Ouvary</i> and <i>Mimo</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Mangay</i> and hath.	700000
<i>Sendaino Thiunangon</i> , King of <i>Massanne</i> and <i>Ochio</i> , lives in the invinsible Castle of <i>Senday</i> and hath	640000
<i>Satsumanon Thiunangon</i> , King of <i>Sasuma</i> <i>Ofimus Fiungo</i> and <i>Luchio</i> lives in <i>Kauga-sma</i> and hath	600000
<i>Rinocouny Daynangon</i> , King of <i>Kimo</i> and <i>Ishe</i> , lives in the Castle of <i>Wake Iamma</i> and hath	550000
<i>Cutto Fingonocamy</i> , King of <i>Tingo</i> lives in the Castle of <i>Koumamasse</i> , and hath	554000
<i>Matsfendeyro Iemenasse</i> , King of <i>Tfunkisen</i> and <i>Faccasia</i> dwells in <i>Foncofa</i> and hath	510000
<i>Matsfendeyro Ionocany</i> King of the Great Province of <i>Ietchesen</i> lives at <i>Ocede</i> and hath	511100
<i>Casto S. Kibo</i> King of <i>Osio</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Ais</i> and hath in Revenue	430000
<i>Afsaino Taysima</i> King of <i>Bingo</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Ok</i> and hath	420000
<i>Matsfendeyro Nangato</i> King of <i>Soua</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Fangy</i> and hath	370000
<i>Missono Thionangon</i> King of <i>Fisays</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Mit.</i> and hath	360000
<i>Nabissima Simano</i> King of <i>Thisen</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Logiois</i> and hath	360000
<i>Matsfendeyro Sentairo</i> King of <i>Ianabafoky</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Tackaham</i> hath	360000
<i>Tido Isumy</i> King of <i>Ianga</i> <i>Iche</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Son</i> hath	320000
<i>Matsfendeyro Lonuey</i> King of <i>Bissen</i> dwells at <i>Ossaiamma</i> hath	310000

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<i>Inno Cammon</i> , the bravest of the Princes King of <i>Tosomy</i> dwells in <i>Savaia</i> & hath	300000.
<i>Fosso Couva</i> <i>Ietchin</i> King of <i>Boyses</i> lives at <i>Cokera</i> and hath	300000.
<i>Oyefungi Daynsio</i> King of <i>Iosfengo</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Gunisauvva</i> and hath	300000.
<i>Masfendeyro Denrio</i> King of the Province of <i>Iesfengo</i> lives at <i>Formando</i> and hath	300000.
<i>Masfendeyro Auva</i> Duke of <i>Auva</i> dwells in the Castle <i>Infi</i> and hath	250000.
<i>Masfendeyro Ietchigonacami</i> Duke of the land of <i>Conge</i> dwells at <i>Takaso</i> and hath	250000.
<i>Masfendeyro Tsiusio</i> Duke of <i>Ioo</i> dwells at <i>Matsamma</i> and hath	250000.
<i>Ariama Grimba</i> Duke of <i>Tsirkingo</i> dwells at <i>Courme</i> hath	240000.
<i>Alorimo Imasack</i> Prince of <i>Imasaka</i> dwells at <i>Tsiamma</i> and hath	200000.
<i>Tory Inganocani</i> Prince of <i>Servano</i> dwells at <i>Lummengassa</i> hath	200000.
<i>Masfendeyro Tosa</i> Prince of <i>Tosnacori</i> dwells at <i>Tocostamma</i> hath	200000.
<i>Satake Okion</i> Prince of <i>Wano</i> dwells at <i>A-</i> <i>kisa</i> , and hath	200000.
<i>Masfendeyro Simo Santamy</i> Prince of <i>Simosa</i> dwells at <i>Tatebay</i> and hath	200000.
<i>Forriwo Iamaßiro</i> Prince of <i>Insimo</i> dwells at <i>Masdays</i> and hath	200000.
<i>Ikouma Ikinocani</i> Prince of <i>Sanike</i> dwells at <i>Couham</i> and hath	180000.
<i>Forriwo Iamaßiro</i> Prince of <i>Insimo</i> dwells at <i>Masdays</i> and hath	180000.
<i>Fonda Kayokami</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Fary-</i> <i>ma</i> dwells in <i>Tayeno</i> and hath	150000.
<i>Sackey Counay</i> Knight & Lord of the great Province of <i>Wano</i> dwells at <i>Fahfio</i> & hath	150000.
<i>Tara sanvva Simado</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Fisen</i> dwells in <i>Lasats</i> and hath	120000.

A DESCRIPTION

<i>Kiongoek wvakasa</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Wakasa</i> dwells in <i>Ofamma</i> and hath	120000.
<i>Fory Tango</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Ietchesen</i> dwells at <i>Kavuantisma</i> and hath	120000.
<i>Minso Fiongo</i> Knight and Lord in <i>Bingo</i> dwells at <i>Fucke Iamma</i> hath	120000.
<i>Sackopharra Eskibon</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Koske</i> dwells in the Castle of <i>Tattays</i> hath	120000.
<i>Masfendeyro Tavvays</i> Governor of the Emperors Castle in <i>Quana</i> hath	110000.
<i>Oeckendeyro Imysacka</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Simoske</i> dwells in <i>Ocsnomin</i> and hath	110000.
<i>Sannada Iut</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Sinano</i> dwells at <i>Koske</i> and hath	110000.
<i>Taysibanna Finda</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Sickingo</i> dwells in <i>Imangonvva</i> and hath	110000.
<i>Ongasaura Oucken</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Ferime</i> dwells at <i>Kays</i> and hath	100000.
<i>Indatiji Voutumij</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Gyo</i> , dwells in <i>Itasima</i> and hath	100000.
<i>Nambon Sinano</i> Knight and Lord in the great Province of <i>Ochio</i> dwells at <i>Morti-amma</i> and hath	100000.
<i>Nina Groysemon</i> Knight and Lord in the great Province of <i>Ochio</i> dwells at <i>Sira-kovva</i> and hath	100000.
<i>Abeno Bitchion</i> Gouvernor of the Emperors Castle <i>Ivvasuky</i> in the Countrey of <i>Mossays</i> hath	80000.
<i>Kiongoek Oenieme</i> Knight and Lord of <i>Tanga</i> dwells in <i>Tanabe</i> and hath	70000.
<i>Atakino Surnga</i> Lord in <i>Ietchingo</i> dwells at <i>Wangerecka</i> and hath	70000.
<i>Nackangonvva Nysien</i> Lord in <i>Bongu</i> lives in the Citie of <i>Nangoun</i> and hath	70000.
<i>Masfendeyro Comba</i> Lord in <i>Sinano</i> dwells in <i>Maismonu</i> hath	70000.
<i>Nayso Samma</i> Lord in <i>Fitays</i> dwells in	

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the Citie of <i>Iuvaysko</i> and hath	70000.
<i>Ieckenda Bitchiou</i> Gouvernor of the Empe- rors Castle <i>Masfymma</i> in <i>Bitchiou</i> hath	60000.
<i>Matswia Fisenocamy</i> Lord in <i>Fisen</i> dwells at <i>Firando</i> where the Shippes belonging to the Company have their <i>Hauen</i> and <i>Traf-</i> <i>sick</i> his income is	60000.
<i>Sengock Fiwo</i> Lord in <i>Sinano</i> lives at <i>O-</i> <i>jonda</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Casta Sewado</i> Lord in <i>Gyo</i> dwells at <i>Oets</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Tofruwa Okion</i> Lord in <i>Dewano</i> lives in the Lordshipp of <i>Shimchiro</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Matsendeyro Iwamy</i> Lord in the Countrey of <i>Farima</i> dwells at <i>Bifongori</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Masfkonra Bungo</i> Lord in <i>Fisen</i> dwells at <i>Simabarra</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Jescouna Tonnomon</i> Lord in <i>Bongo</i> dwells at <i>Fisa</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Tfungaer Ietchin</i> Lord in <i>Ochio</i> dwells at <i>Tfungaera</i> Sea towne and hath	60000.
<i>Ongafauwara Simano</i> Lord in <i>Farimer</i> dwells at <i>Sekeys</i> and hath	60000.
<i>Itha Chiury</i> Lord in <i>Fonga</i> dwells at <i>Orafi</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Fonrua Fina</i> Lord in <i>Iwamy</i> dwells at <i>Dayfro</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Wakesacka Arbayi</i> Lord in <i>Sinano</i> and dwells at <i>Ino</i>	50000.
<i>Touky Nangato</i> Lord in <i>Iohn</i> dwells at <i>Toba</i> hath	50000.
<i>Arima Soymonofkie</i> Lord in <i>Niko</i> dwells at <i>Acconda</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Outa Fiwo</i> Lord in <i>Iamassa</i> dwells at <i>On-</i> <i>da</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Matsendeyro Dewado</i> Lord in the great Province of <i>Iesfisen</i> dwells at <i>Onne</i> & hath	50000.
<i>Minsnokuyte Foky</i> Lord in <i>Icsengo</i> lives at <i>Ribatia</i> and hath	50000.

<i>Innaba Mimbro</i> Lord in <i>Bonngo</i> lives at <i>Ousfhero</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Cröda Caynokamij</i> Lord in <i>Chimano</i> lives at <i>Camro</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Masfendeyro Sonodanno</i> Lord in <i>Isunij</i> liveth at <i>Kisnowadda</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Tonda Sammon</i> Lord in <i>Sonnocammy</i> dwells at <i>Amangasack</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Stosfianangy Kemmots</i> Lord in <i>Ichie</i> lives at <i>Congon</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Fondo Ichendcamy</i> Lord in <i>Micanwa</i> lives at <i>Ocha Sacka</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Masfendeyro Iamaysfiro</i> Lord in <i>Tamba</i> dwells at <i>Cassaiamma</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Mory Caynocamij</i> Lord in <i>Ingal Iche</i> dwells at <i>Sowro Sada</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Tonda Notanocamij</i> Lord in <i>Farima</i> dwells at <i>Fimens</i> hath	50000.
<i>Akiso Sionofke</i> Lord in <i>Fitays</i> dwells at <i>Chichindu</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Affano Oenime</i> Lord in <i>Chions</i> lives at <i>Casseme</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Neyto Cinocamij</i> Lord in <i>Chions</i> lives at <i>Akandaze</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Cattes Kibodo</i> Lord in <i>Ochio</i> lives at <i>Ayns</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Samma Daysiennocamij</i> Lord in <i>Ochio</i> dwells at <i>Sama</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Fonda Iamassa</i> Lord in <i>Tayfima</i> lives at <i>Isui</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Ouckob Cangato</i> Lord in <i>Atino</i> lives at <i>Canno</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Nayto Boyfen</i> Lord in <i>Dewano</i> lives in <i>Idata</i> and hath	50000.
<i>Inawa Aways</i> Lord in <i>Tamba</i> lives at <i>Fuco-kuyfcamma</i> and hath	40000.
<i>Camij Asirick</i> Lord in <i>Iwamy</i> lives at <i>Mon-gamij</i> and hath	40000.

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<i>Cattaygiri Ismou</i> Lord in <i>Iammawo</i> dwells at <i>Tatssa</i> and hath	40000.
<i>Chonda Findanocami</i> Lord in the Province of <i>Iesfesen</i> lives in <i>Maroka</i> and hath	40000.
<i>Itacaura Sauadonne</i> Gouvernour of the great Citie of trade <i>Miako</i> hath	40000.
<i>Masfendeyro Bougo</i> Lord of the Countrey of <i>Iwamy</i> dwells at <i>Nakasima</i> hath	40000.
<i>Fonda Nayky</i> Lord in <i>Farima</i> lives at <i>Fimris</i> hath	40000.
<i>Masfendeyro Tango</i> Lord in <i>Ochio</i> lives at <i>Suckey</i> and hath	40000.
<i>Canna Maury Isomme</i> Lord in <i>Finda</i> lives at <i>Oumory</i> and hath	40000.
<i>Cimigock Chinry</i> Lord in <i>Tango</i> lives in <i>Tannabe</i> and hath	36000.
<i>Outta Giuwe</i> Lord in <i>Mino</i> lives at <i>Isfno-day</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Masfendeyro Gesfo</i> Gouvernour of the Castle <i>Ionda</i> in <i>Iamayfiro</i> hath	30000.
<i>Masfendeyro Ouckon</i> Lord in <i>Farima</i> lives at <i>Ako</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Minsonoya Ichenokamy</i> Lord in <i>Kooskie</i> lives in <i>Chitintayn</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Immasacka Kaynokamij</i> Lord in <i>Bischou</i> lives at <i>Narse</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Masfendeyro Iammawo</i> Lord in <i>Iesfesen</i> lives at <i>Casfiamma</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Inno Fivero</i> Lord in <i>Cofsie</i> lives at <i>Amma</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Masfendeyro Tonnomon</i> Lord in <i>Mikaura</i> lives at <i>Iuffinda</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Akisuckie Nangako</i> Lord in <i>Niko</i> lives at <i>Sumyno</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Sauo Inaba</i> Lord in <i>Sinano</i> lives at <i>Soua</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Foyfomo Fongo</i> Lord in <i>Sinano</i> lives at <i>Tackaboys</i> and hath	30000.

<i>Sunganoma Omribe</i> Lord in <i>Totomij</i> lives in <i>Sese</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Simaes Oemanoske</i> Lord in <i>Nicho</i> lives in <i>Sando Barra</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Kinostag Iemmon</i> Lord in <i>Bongo</i> lives at <i>Fins</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Sono Tsinfima</i> Lord in <i>Tsinfima</i> hath	30000.
<i>Koyndo Fimano</i> Lord in <i>Tongo</i> lives at <i>Oke-da</i> hath	30000.
<i>Fondo Fimso</i> Governor of <i>Nisimo</i> lives at <i>Mikauwa</i> hath	30000.
<i>Gorick Serfnokamij</i> Lord in <i>Mikauwa</i> lives at <i>Fammass</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Chinso Swraga</i> Lord in <i>Fitayss</i> dwells in <i>Tsuycowra</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Secuma Fisen</i> Lord in <i>Sinano</i> lives at <i>Irai-amma</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Todo Toinsma</i> Lord in <i>Mino</i> lives at <i>Cannaiamma</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Fowda Isumij</i> Lord in <i>Fitayss</i> lives at <i>Minnangaura</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Tongauwa Tosa</i> Lord in <i>Bichion</i> lives at <i>Nikays</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Matsendeyro Tosa</i> Lord in the Province of <i>Iessesen</i> lives at <i>Konomatra</i> and hath	30000.
<i>Sugyfarra Foky</i> Lord in <i>Fitayss</i> lives at <i>Gungowry</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Kynostay Kounay</i> Lord in <i>Bichion</i> lives at <i>Koroufy</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Matsendeyro Koysero</i> Lord in <i>Farima</i> lives at <i>Farima</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Inasacka Tsonokamij</i> Governor of the Emperors Castle <i>Osacca</i> hath	20000.
<i>Matsendeyro Kenmoss</i> Lord in <i>Tamba</i> lives at <i>Cammeiomme</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Masley Sake</i> Lord in <i>Ochio</i> lives at <i>Sanboumass</i> and hath	20000.

<i>Onomura Mimbo</i> Lord in <i>Fisen</i> lives at <i>Daymats</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Masfendeyro Isunij</i> Lord in <i>Mino</i> lives at <i>Iwamoura</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Masfendeyro Chinocamy</i> Lord in <i>Tsonnota-</i> <i>my</i> lives at <i>Faynotory</i>	20000.
<i>Minsuo Fayto</i> Lord in <i>Micanwa</i> lives at <i>Corea</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Nito Tusewak</i> Lord in <i>Chiono</i> lives at <i>Iway</i> <i>Fowwa</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Ongusawary Wakasa</i> Lord in <i>Simosa</i> lives at <i>Sekyda</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Fishicatta Cannon</i> Lord in <i>Chiono</i> lives at <i>Mawasa</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Iwaky Sirrofy</i> Lord in <i>Chiono</i> lives at <i>Is-</i> <i>dowra</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Rekongo Fiongo</i> Lord in <i>Dewano</i> lives at <i>Iwry</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Takennacia Oenieme</i> Lord in <i>Boungel</i> lives at <i>Fowway</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Mowry Ickenocaney</i> Lord in <i>Boungel</i> lives at <i>Ounays</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Wakebe Sackion</i> Lord in <i>Totomij</i> lives at <i>Om-</i> <i>miso</i> and hath	20000.
<i>Isifois Infnocamy</i> Lord in <i>Totamy</i> lives at <i>Cosfoys</i> and hath in Revenue	20000.

All these Sumes amount to 17794000.

Here follow some lesser Lords whose Lordships and places for brevity are omitted as less considerable their names only and Revenues being specified as followeth.

<i>Sangoro Saffiys</i>	20000.	<i>Fossa Cama Geruba</i>	15000.
<i>Fory Minnasacka</i>	20000.	<i>Fack yne Drysen</i>	15000.
<i>Quirelamma Samon</i>	15000.	<i>Masfendeyro Drysen</i>	15000

Gillie,

<i>Gostoways Lord of the Island Goto:</i>	15000.	<i>Fayssien Gowas</i>	10000.
<i>Catayngori Iwami</i>	15000.	<i>Ousano Tango</i>	10000.
<i>Cusima Iersingo</i>	15000.	<i>Fieno Orrabi</i>	10000.
<i>Conbary Tomosy</i>	15000.	<i>Auby Ceynocams</i>	10000.
<i>Tackamy mondo</i>	15000.	<i>Otana Monfoys</i>	10000.
<i>Miake Iersingo</i>	15000.	<i>Majudda Iametta</i>	10000.
<i>Cachebe Sayngow</i>	10000.	<i>Taitfibanna Saoken</i>	10000.
<i>Mynangana Chy-nomoccanij</i>	10000.	<i>Oflana Camweys</i>	10000.
<i>Iaydsio Dewanocanij</i>	10000.	<i>Nimas Kybon</i>	10000.
<i>Coungay Inaba</i>	10000.	<i>Fory Arbays</i>	10000.
<i>Satkan Oukem</i>	15000.	<i>Fosio Mimafacka</i>	10000.
<i>Conda Iwanij</i>	15000.	<i>Sango Wake Sakea</i>	10000.
<i>Nasno Ients</i>	15000.	<i>Tonda Inaba</i>	10000.
<i>Oudaura Bisen</i>	10000.	<i>Samnanda Nyki</i>	10000.
<i>Toiamma Gidwo</i>	10000.	<i>Ikenday Ierseses</i>	10000.
<i>Fira Onga Gintmon</i>	10000.	<i>Miangi Simsen</i>	10000.
<i>Ofeki Iemmon</i>	10000.	<i>Ison Tangow</i>	10000.
		<i>Tonda Nayki</i>	10000.

All hitherto comes to 18395000

Here follow's the Emperours Counsellors who receive their Sallary out of his Majesties Revenues, whose Lordships wee likewise omit for brevityes sake, and shall onely mention their names and Salleryes.

<i>Doyno Doydonno</i>		<i>Inabe Tangedonno</i>	40000
<i>President</i>	150000.	<i>Sackay Auwado</i>	30000
<i>Jackey Ousadono</i>		<i>Sakay Iameficedono</i>	30000
<i>Chancelor</i>	120000.	<i>Nayda Ingado</i>	30000
<i>Nangay Symodnonno</i>	100000.	<i>Tsilia Winbondonno</i>	20000
<i>Sackay Samikodonno</i>	90000	<i>Misson Oukiedonno</i>	20000
<i>Ando Oukiondonno</i>	60000	<i>Maisendeyro Iemow-donno</i>	20000.
<i>Inato Cawayfda</i>	50000		

18395000

OF JAPAN.

15

<i>Iammanguys Taffi-</i>		<i>onadonno</i>	15000.
<i>mandannno</i>	20000.	<i>Forita Cangadonna</i>	15000.
<i>Maisendeyw Iur</i>		<i>Miura Symadonne</i>	10000.
<i>donno</i>	20000.	<i>Maynda Gonofke</i>	
<i>Abe asonngo Donno</i>	15000.	<i>donne</i>	10000.
<i>Auwe Iamon Ow-</i>		<i>Missona Iamassa</i>	10000.
<i>keradonno</i>	15000.	<i>Fory Isfuocany</i>	10000.
<i>Ciongock Siensendonei</i>	5000	<i>Mury Omonofke-</i>	
<i>Itacaura Nisfenda</i>	15000.	<i>donno</i>	10000.
<i>Nacsis lucdonno</i>	15000.	<i>Fondo Saniadonno</i>	10000.
<i>Akimouia Tayfi-</i>			
The Totall			19345000.

Moreover, his Majesty spends in his owne and his Sons
Table and cloths together with his Wives and their
Table & Cloths, foure Millions of Guilders yearly
which in Sterling Moneys is 400000.

His Majesties life guard being all persons of qualitie
receiv in pay and pensions yearly 500000.

All these vast Expences amount to 28½ Milli-
ons 450 thousand Guilders or 28345000. ster-
ling monie

*What qualitie & authority the
supreame Magistrate
hath.*

THe supreame Magistrate in Japan is stiled
Emperor in respect of the Kings & Princes
that are under his Obedience, He is Sovereign
Lord and Ovvner of the whole land and
hath

hath power (as it happened severall times during my residence there) to banish and punish with death, at pleasure, his offending Kings and Lords, and to give avway their Commands and Treasures to those he fancies more deserving then they.

His dwelling place, magnificence & Traine

The Imperial Citie of *Iedo*, where his Maiesty resides, is very great, his Pallace cōtaynes in circuit six English miles, being encōpassed with three Moats and three Counterscharpes: These Ditches are very deep, being bordered on both sides vvith high and strong Stone vvalls strangely angular: The first circumference, entring into the second, the second into the third, and this againe into the second and first, so odly that it is impossible, by reason of the multiplicity of the poynts & vvorkes, to remember the fashion of the whole, and it is not permitted to take the plaine thereof. Such as enter must goe through a passage of three or foure hundred paces, fortified with Eight or Nyne huge gates not right over each other, but ansyvering the points and halfe circles in the mentioned vvalles, betvvixt every tyvo ports there is a large plaine guarded
with

with a Company of Souldiers, and those being
 past several heights with broad stone Stairs and
 Walls, which being likewise surmounted, se-
 veral great Plains bordered with large Galleries
 against the Sun and Rain, do present themselves
 to the common view. The Streets in the Ca-
 stle are extraordinary large, built on each side
 with goodly Pallaces, belonging to the Lords
 of the Kingdom: The Castle Gates are very
 strong, and covered on both sides with iron
 Bars of an inch thick crossing each other, and
 fastened with Bolts of the same: every Gate
 hath his House large enough to contain two or
 three hundred Souldiers, and defensible upon
 occasion: within, in the midst of the first cir-
 cumference, standeth his Majesties Pallace; it is
 great, and consisteth of several dwellings beau-
 tified with Woods, to the envy of Nature, full
 of Ponds, Rivers, Gardens, Plains, Courts,
 places to Pickeer and Sport in, and moreover,
 contains all the dwellings of his Women. The
 second Circumference is inhabited by the next
 Princes of the blood, and those of the Council:
 And the third is possessed with the proud Pal-
 laces and dwellings of the severall Kings and
 principal Dukes, and Lords of Japan. The
 Cheifs of Lesser note have their Houses with-
 out the third Round, each adorned according
 to the Dignity and Riches of the Owners, all

almost gilt, so that this goodly Edifice appears at a distance not unlike a Mountain of Gold; for all the Lords (none excepted) rack themselves to please his Majesty by beautifying his Castle and their own Habitations; which their lawful Wives and Children do likewise enjoy after their decease, continuing always under the Emperors eye as Hostages of their fidelity. This City of *Iedo* is nine English Miles long, and six broad, and is as closely built as any City in Europe.

The Court, how great soever, is dayly crowded with multitudes of Nobles, who with their numerous Trains with Horses and *Pallanquins* make the Streets too narrow for their passage. When the Emperor goeth abroad, sometimes on Horse-back, and sometimes carried in a *Pallanquin*, open on every side, he is ordinarily accompanied with these Lords, who are called his Majesties Companions; being all of them of high State and Revenues, though without Lands or other Office save their attendance: They are Persons extraordinarily qualified; some in Musick and Singing, others in Physick, Writing, Painting, Elocution, and the like. These are followed by the Life-Guard, all Persons of quality and choice, being the natural Sons of Kings and Princes, begot on their Concubines and incapable of succession;
and

and the Brothers, Cosins and Kindred of great Lords, which, by reason of their many Women, are very numerous: I will give you one example. The Emperors Uncle, King of Mito, now fifty four years old, hath as many Sons as he hath years, and many more Daughters, whose number is unknown. After these follows part of the second Life-Guard, which consisting of some thousands, is so divided, that half goes a Cannon shot before his Majesty, and the other half follows at the same distance.

However the number of these Souldiers be great, yet there is not one of them which hath not passed Examination, and found to be thus qualified: They must be active of body, ready in the use of all sorts of Arms, and somewhat knowing in their Studies; especially well exercised and trained, which they are to a wonder: for when his Majesty moves, they go along, Horse and Foot, clothed all in black Silk, and ranked before, behinde, and on each side of him: They march in such comely order, that never a one is observed to go out of his place; and with such silence, that they neither speak nor make any the least noise: Neither indeed do the Citizens move their lips when the Emperor passeth, nothing being then heard but the rustling of Men and Horses: The ways and streets, are at such times, made very clean,

B a

strewe

strewwed with sand and sprinkled with water; No doors are shut, and yet no body dares look out either at them or at the windows, or so much as stand in their shops to see the Emperor pass; all must keep within doors, unless such who will kneel upon mats before them. When his Majesty goes on progress to *Miako*, sometimes the imperial City, which happens once every five or seaven Years, to give the *Deyro* (which is the true Heir of the Kingdom and lives there) a visit, the preparations are making an whole year before the orders are given on what day and with what train every great Man shall go, to the end that the ways may not be pestered with their numbers. Half of the great Lords, according to their turns set out some days before, then follows his Majesty with his Councillers, who are followed some days after by the remaining Kings and Lords. The concourse of people at such a time is incredible, the whole City, though containing above One hundred thousand Houses, not being big enough to lodge them all; so that tents and huts are raised round about the same for the Souldiers and common People.

The distance betwixt *Jedo* and *Miako* is reckoned to be one hundred twenty five Dutch miles; At every two or three miles there is a
City

City or open Town; and the whole is divided into twenty and eight Gists or Lodgings, whereof twenty are strong Castles: there is in every quarter, from the first to the last, a train of Gentlemen, Souldiers, Horse, Provisions, and all necessaries besitting so great a Prince, ordered there for his reception and entertainment. Those that set out with him from *Jedo* stay in the first lodging; those that were there remove with him to the second; those of the second to the third, and so to the last; so that each train and their dependants follow his Majesty but half a day, until all of them, according to their instructions, marching in order, do at length arrive at *Miako*, leaving the afore-said Castles and Lodgings to their usual Governors and Guards. In the return from *Miako* to *Jedo* the same method is observed, all things being prepared as formerly, without trouble or confusion.

This year 1636 there is an extraordinary great Edifice and Building at *Niko*, four days Journey from *Jedo*, which is to be the Burial place of the Emperors Father, in whose Temple the great Copper Crown which the East-India-Company gave his Majesty last year, is hung up. There is likewise in this territory of *Niako* a very great Castle, with double moats and stone walls, strong and sumptuous: there are

several Palaces in it ; as also a great number of Artificers, as Painters, Masons, Statue-Cutters, Gold, Silver, and Iron-Smiths, Cloathiers, and all sorts of Handy-Crafts-Men, who have their tasks set them, but are well paid. This Castle, which seemed to require three years for its building, was finished in five moneths, though it lies far in the Country, and out of all ways, being only made to receive his Majesty in his ceremonious visits of his Fathers Sepulchre.

His Majesties Treasure consists in Silver and Gold, packd in Chests, each weighing one thousand *Teyls*, that is about fourscore ordinary pounds weight: these are placed in the several Towers of his Castle together, with other legacies, with their writings, which are kept for their Antiquity. This vast Treasure increases dayly, for the Revenue of two moneths, is sufficient to defray the Emperors expences, how great soever, for one whole year.

This Emperors Father being the Son of *Ongoschio*, who possessed himself of the Government after the late troubles, died about the fiftieth year of his age, in the year of our Saviour 1631: being sensible of his end, he called his Son to him, and amongst many other good counsels, concluded to this purpose; *My Kingdom and all my Treasures are yours; but what I recommend to you I likewise deliver you, The old Lawes and*
Chro.

Chronicles of the Countrey, our vwritten Sentences and VVisdom are inclosed in this Cabinet, the principal Iewels of my Crown are likewise in it; receive them all as they deserve, for they are mine, and were highly valued by your fore-Fathers. The Jewels which were accounted inestimable, are these following; whereof he gave to his eldest Son, Emperor of Japan,

A crooked Sable, called Jeiky Massamme.

Another Sable called Samoys.

Another less called Bungo Doysero.

A Pot called Naraisiba.

A great r Siapol called Stengo.

A Manuscript called Anckocky kindo.

To his Brother King of Onvay and *Atstanomia*,

A Picture called Darne, to be viewed backwards.

A Sable called Massamme.

To his second Brother King of Kinokoumy,

A Sable called Jeess Messamme.

A Picture of Frogs.

To his third Brother King of Mito.

A Sable called Sandamme.

A Manuscript called Seuche.

These six pieces bestowed on the three Brothers are but of little worth, in comparison of the six other given the Emperor, and yet they are valued at a thousand gold Oebans, that is

forty seven Teylens a piece. The Silver and Gold which his Majesty gave to the Princes of his blood, to several of his favorite Kings, their Wives, his companion Lords, his Soldiers and Gentlemen amounted upon account to above Thirty Millions sterling.

The present Emperor being after his Fathers decease in full and peaceable possession of the Government, had as then no lawful Wife, being much given to Sodomy, which moved the Deyro to send him two beautiful Ladies, (of his own kindred, and every way accomplished) with a desire that he would be pleased to chuse one of them, that best pleased him, for his *Mistress* or Empress. He did indeed consent to the Deyros request, but followed his old way of living; so that the young Lady, being destitute of the conversation she might reasonably expect, was extreemly afflicted, although she durst not let it appear for fear of her Husband's displeasure. At length her Foster-Mother (a Lady of great credit, both in respect of her age, and in that she had bred up so great a Princess) finding the Emperor one day in a good humor, adventured, though very submissively, to speak to him in behalf of her Mistress; which she did as followeth. *How is it possible that your Majesties affections should be carried away with such unnatural pleasures, and that so beautiful a*
Creature

Creature as your own Handmaid, vvho vvould rejoice you in bearing another like to your Self, should be forgotten, certainly she ought to be preferred. The Tyrant, though till now in his frolicks, grew angry, yet said nothing; but rising up retired immediatly: and sending for all the Overseers of his Buildings, commanded them forthwith to begin and build him a Castle, with high Walls, Moats, Bridges, and strong Gates; as also to adorn it within with all manner of necessary and sumptuous appertainments and Lodgings. The work being finished with more then ordinary haste, the beautiful Queen, her Foster-Mother, and all that train of young Ladies which she brought with her from *Mia-ko*, were put into it, where she is kept without the sight of men, and intirely forsaken of her Husband. The Emperor's own Foster-Mother, who was likewise in great esteem and respect as his own Mother, being much troubled at this action of his Majesty, and seeing he had no Children, neither was like to have any whilst he lived thus, sent into the several Countries in his Dominions to search out the most charming beauties that could be found; which done, she disposes of them in such manner, that his Majesty insensibly had the sight of them all; among the rest there was a slight maid, an Armors Daughter, who did so far please him,
and

and gain upon his affections, that he lay with her. The great Ladies of the Court, seeing an Artificers Girl preferred before them all, mad with jealousy and rage, resolved to strangle her Childe in its birth, which they cruelly performed; but have hitherto kept the knowledge of so black a deed from the Emperor, fearing his just indignation and revenge.

The Japan Chronicles write, that this great Kingdom hath, until this hundred years, been still governed by an Hereditary Prince, which they call *Deyro*, who was in such reverence with the people, that never any tumults or civil broils were raised against his Person or Authority: He was esteemed so Sacred, that to oppose him was judged no less criminal then to fight against the Gods; both being inexpiable. When any difference arose betwixt his subject-Kings, so that they armed each against other, there was a *Generalissimo* appointed to mediate their quarrels, and punish, if need were, the offending or transgressing Prince: For the *Deyros* themselves were esteemed so holy, that they never trod upon the ground; neither was the Sun or Moon ever suffered to shine upon them; nothing of their Body was diminished or paired off, their hair, beard and nails being suffered to grow at length: When they did eat, their meat was still dressed in new pots, and served up

up in new dishes. They have twelve married Wives apiece, who are severally honored and brought with various ceremonies to this height and state: When the *Deyro* goes abroad, he is followed with these twelve Women, each in her Coach, adorned with her Arms and Titles; these have their Houses and Trains apart, all in the *Deyro's* Palace, built in rows, six on a side, very magnificent, and beautified (as the Coaches) with their Names, Arms and Titles. The Concubines dwell likewise by themselves. Supper is provided every evening in every one of these twelve Houses, with voices and instruments, though none knows who shall be honored with the *Deyro's* company. Where the *Deyro* enters, the banqueting and provision of the other eleven Houses is immediately brought thither; the other eleven Wives following with their Ladies and Musick, to divert and make merry with her whom the *Deyro* thinks at present worthy of his conversation: They have their Comedies likewise, and such other pastimes as besit so splendid an entertainment.

When the *Deyro* is blessed with a Son, the hoped Successor of that Empire, a Nurse is chosen for him out of eighty of the loveliest Women of the Country, young and Noble Wives to Persons of great quality and birth; These Women are honored and received by the
Deyro's

Deyro's twelve Wives, and all his Women, as also those nine principal Lords who are of his blood and kindred, and next the inheritance in case he have no issue male, with extraordinary ceremonies and feasting. The following day forty are chosen out of the fourscore, the which, the number decreasing, are entertained more honorably then before; the day being spent in usual and pompous diversions, the recited forty retain the Titles and Dignities of Foster-Mothers, but are dismissed from further attendance, though not without gifts and rich presents. Ten are again chosen out of the remaining forty; out of these ten three; and lastly, out of these three one; in all which elections the honors, ceremonies and presents are successively heightened. Three days after the last chosen Nurse is again highly entertained; which being done, the milk is pressed out of her breasts into the Childes mouth, (which all this while is held by one of the noblest Ladies of the Court;) which ceremony done, the Nurse is as then esteemed worthy to take that Child into her custody, being it hath tasted of her milk and substance.

The Ceremonies and Feasts of their Weddings, Childe-bearings, and those other which they celebrate yearly, are performed with much state and modest pomp, and are at this day in
use

use by the *Deyro*, who wants nothing, save that the Land is governed by another; the reason and history whereof we will briefly declare.

The Office of Chief General was formerly the first in the whole Kingdom, which ordinarily was conferred upon the *Deyro's* second Son; but having then another Son, which, for the Mothers sake, he was willing to advance, he divided this great charge betwixt them, with command, that they should govern each his three years by turn. This took for some time, until one of them, having tasted the sweetness of ruling, was loath to quit so splendid an employment; he therefore leagues with the great Lords of the Country, and settles his power so fast, during his Commission, that neither the commands and entreaties of his Father, nor the violence of his offended Brother, were able to remove him: Yet this being a business of so ill and so great consequence, and like to embroil the Kingdom in disorders, the *Deyro* resolved to chastise his rebellious Son; which, by the assistance of his Kings, and the valour of his former General, he did. And this was the beginning, and the first intestine war that ever happened against the *Deyro's* State and Authority.

The

The aforesaid General being for his good service continued in his command, ordered his business so well, that after his Majesties death he made himself Lord of his inheritance, usurping the Government of the Kingdom wholly into his hands; leaving yet the Deyra's Court in its former state and greatness, (his Successor to his Revenue) and commanding he should be used in all things with the same respect and ceremony as before. These proceedings produced another War, another General being chosen; who having overthrown the former, usurped to himself what he had condemned in his Predecessor, the Sovereignty of the whole Land; which occasioned a third intestine War more cruel and more destroying then the other two; For now the Kings and Governors of Provinces began to set up each for himself, so that the Countrey was wellnigh ruined (Town being against Town, and City against City) by these dissenting Grandees: During these troubles it fell out that a bold active Fellow, formerly a private Souldier, thinking it best fishing in troubled waters, resolved to put in for a share; Having therefore got together forty or fifty Companions, as desperate as himself, he in a little time, what with his good fortune and good conduct, grew very numerous and considerable, and having taken several Castles

Castles and Towns, drove likewise all that stood him out of the field; so that in less then three years he became absolute and Sovereign Lord of the whole Kingdom. He, as the other Usurpers, left the *Deyro* in quiet possession of all he formerly enjoyed (except the Government) which he held himself; and was afterwards, by the said *Deyro*, (unable to vindicate his own right) acknowledged and crowned Emperor of Japan with unimaginable pomp and magnificence.

This Emperor, whose name was *Tayska*, being no less prudent then brave, fearing lest the great Lords of his Kingdom, reflecting upon the lowness of his former condition might contemn his present Authority, as disdainng to be governd by one less then themselves, thought it best to keep them in action, the better to divert them from caviling anew; he therefore sent those Kings and Chiefs, that he feared most, with an Army of sixty thousand Men, to war against *Corea*, and reduce that Country to the obedience of the *Japan* Empire. These he held there with kinde messages, and reiterated promises of succours seven whole years, commanding they should not return till they had subdued and made conquest of all: But the Army longing for their Country, their Wives and Children, and despairing of a return,

turn, mutined; and destroying, burning, and plundering all they could meet, endeavoured the satisfaction of their pretended wrongs by the desolation of others. The *Coreans*, unable to endure this violence any longer, sent an Ambassador to the Emperour *Taycko*, who, being admitted into his Court, found means to take away his life by poison, in revenge of the manifold wrongs his Country had suffered by the injurious ambition of this Prince. The Kings and Lords, commanding the Army in *Corea*, hearing of their Emperor's death, resolved to quit that Country, and to return every one to his own, in expectation and hopes who amongst them might be chosen to succeed in the Sovereignty.

The Emperor being removed, left one only Son behinde him, called *Fideri*, about six years of age; but before he died he appointed him a Governor, one of the greatest Lords of his Country, by name *Ongoschio*; one whom he had obliged by his favors, and relied upon above all others for his fidelity: To this Person he delivered his Infant-Son, with command, that when he was fifteen years of age, he should cause him to be crowned by the *Deyro*, with the usual Poms and Ceremonies, as Emperor of *Japan*. *Ongoschio* being thus declared Governor of the Princes Person, was likewise by
Taycko's

Taycko's will, and the consent of his Subject-Kings, made Regent of the Kingdom during the minority, which for some time he peaceably ruled in his Master's name: But growing now weary of subordination, he quickly forgot his promise made to *Taycko*, and sealed with his blood; *Fideri* being therefore to be removed, to make place for his greatness, he assaulted him first in his reputation, by laying those things to his charge he was no way guilty of; amongst others, he accused him of distrust of his Tutor, and that he made private preparations to extort the Government out of his hands by force, before his time; he laid likewise ambition, and an untimely desire of honor to his charge, in that he suffered himself to be adored as Emperor before he was invested with the Power; and that the Kings and Lords of the Realm, had done him that reverence which was only due to a received Emperor. But armed ambition needs not many excuses, *Ongoschio* musters his united forces in the Kingdom of *Surnga*, and marching thence to *Onsacka*, where *Fideri* held his Court, besieged him with all his might. *Fideri*, having held out three moneths, being now reduced to great extremity, would prevent his ruine by a sordid submission; he therefore sent to *Ongoschio* to beg his life, quitting all his pretence to the

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Empire,

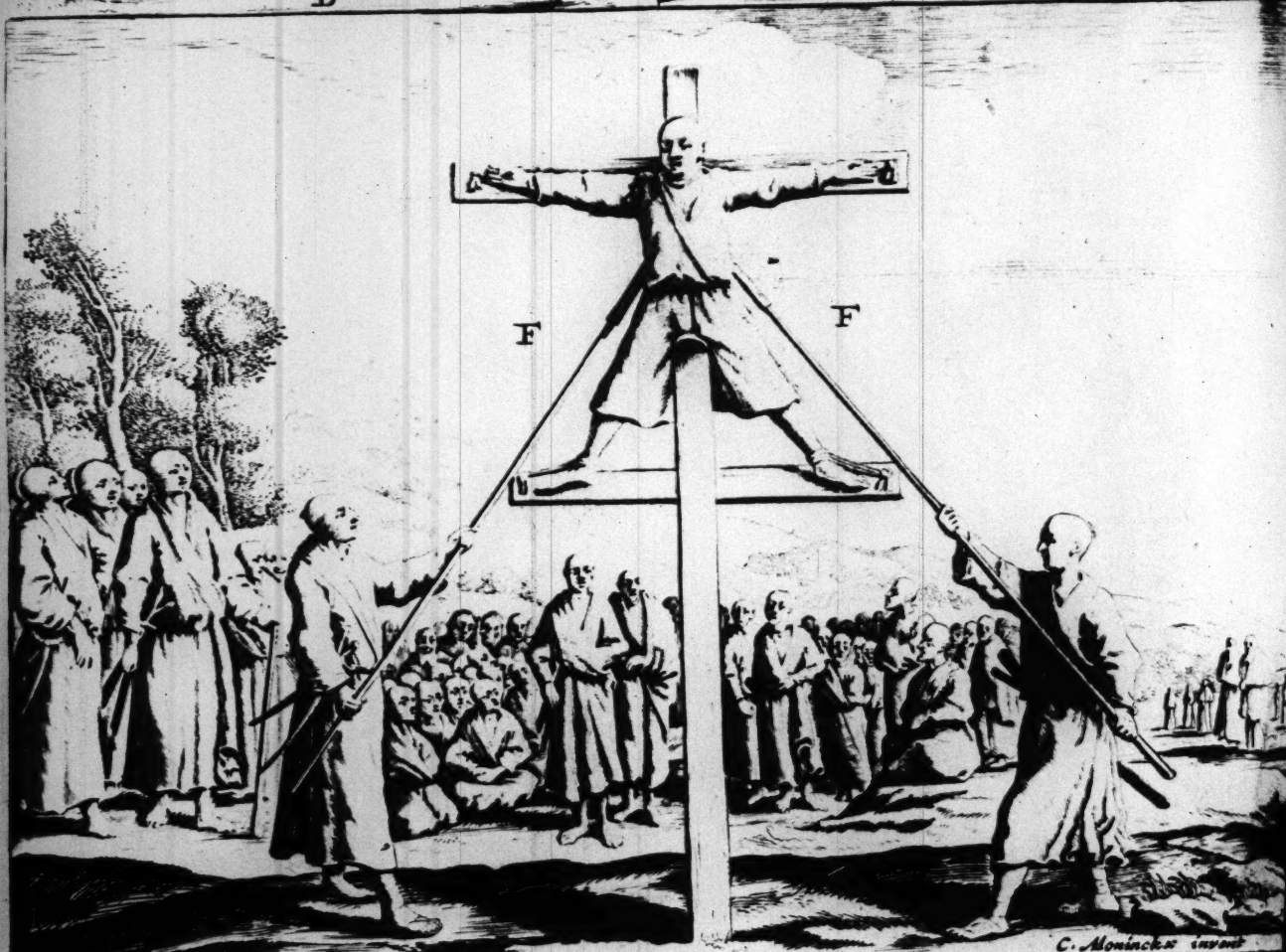
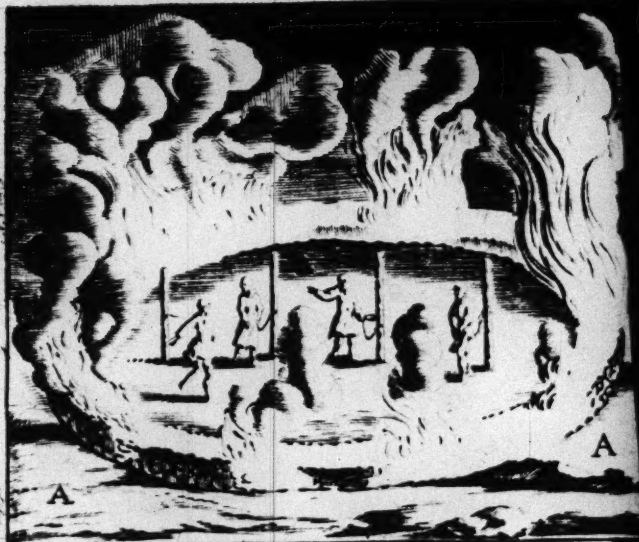
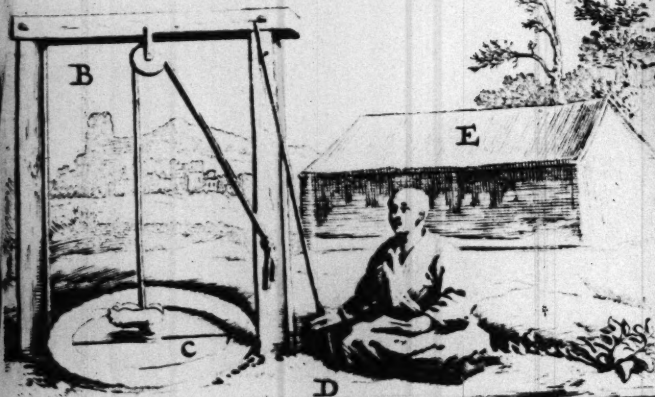
Empire, and desiring only to survive a Vassal to the Conqueror. But *Ongoschio* refused all manner of capitulation; and though *Fideri* sent out his Wife, who was his Adversaries Daughter, to supplicate his safety, she could not be heard of her Father. The Castle being taken, the Palace where *Fideri* had retired himself, with his Mother and chief Friends, was encompassed with great posts and pallisadoes, and much wood being piled up about it, the unfortunate Prince, and all them that were with him, were miserably burnt and consumed with fire. *Ongoschio* having thus destroyed his Master, put all them to death who were considerable, and of his party; bringing the whole Empire under his obedience by force, as *Tayek* had done before him. The year following *Ongoschio* died, not enjoying long what his violence had so quickly got him; his Son *Coubo*, or *Coubosanna*, succeeded him, who was Father to this present Emperor *Chiongon*, now reigning.

*The number of his Souldiers,
and their Arms.*

THe Revenue which is divided amongst the Kings and governing Lords, amounts (as is already demonstrated) to 18400000 Coquyns, or Pounds sterling; according to which account, each of them must, proportionably, entertain a select company of Souldiers, always in readinets for the Emperor's service; so that he who hath a thousand Coquyns yearly, must bring into the field, when ever he is commanded, twenty Foot Souldiers & two Horse-Men. Thus the Lord of Fiarmor, who hath 60000 Coquyns a year, must entertain, as he easily may, one thousand two hundred Foot, and one hundred and twenty Horse, besides Servants, Slaves, and what more is necessary for the Train. The number therefore of Souldiers, which the Emperor hath continually in service, entertained by the aforesaid Kings and Lords, amount to three hundred sixty eight thousand Foot, and thirty six thousand eight hundred Horse. Besides these his Majesty hath one hundred thousand Foot, and twenty thousand Horse, which he paies out of his own Revenue, and keeps for the Garrison-

ing of his Castles and Forts, and the securing of his own Person. Most of the Lords, especially the most powerful, do ordinarily keep double the number of Souldiers, and many more then they are obliged to by their tax; and all to out-vie each other, and the better to ingratiate themselves with their common Master, as hath appeared at large in the late War. The Horse-Men are all harnassed, though the Foot have no other defensive arms then a Head-piece; the Horse are armed, some with short Guns, some with short Pikes, others with Bows and Arrows, and all with Swords or Sables. The Foot have likewise Sables, Pikes, and Halberts, and those that are divided into Companies Fire-Arms: every five Souldiers have their Commander armed as they are; five of these Chiefs have likewise those who command them; and their five and twenty, and twicetwenty five, make a compleat Company, commanded by two Heads, who, with their fifty, are commanded by a Captain in chief: five of these ordinary Companies are again commanded by another; and fifty Companies have likewise their principal Officer; the same method and order being held under the Horse. His Majesty may easily and exactly know how many living souls, how many Souldiers, and how many Citizens he hath in his whole Kingdom;





Maniere van Justitie in Jappon.

dom; for the Houses being built by five and five, and every five having their Commander who must register all them that are born and die within their Jurisdiction, and report the same to their Lords, who again are obliged to tell it their Kings, and they to two Officers appointed by the Emperor for that purpose.

The Authority of his Counsellors and Vassals.

THe Senators, or Councillors, hath each his Office apart, excepting only four, who are the principal and chief Ministers of State; these come daily to Court, and dispatch all Publick Affairs by his Majesties directions; and are (as likewise the other minor Senators) highly respected and honored by the subordinate Kings and Lords: The chief of these have two hundred thousand pounds a year, the middle half so much, and the lesser thirty, twenty, and ten thousand pounds *per An.* Their Authority and Power is confined to the Emperor's Pleasure, none of them (upon pain of Banishment or worse) daring to advise a second time, after Answer once received from the Prince. His Majesty chuses these his Counsellors out of those Gentlemen that have served

well and long, having been bred up in the Court with him, and had the address to please him most. All the Affairs of the Kingdom pass these mens hands; but they are very circumspect in observing his Majesties eye and pleasure, before they adventure to propose advice or answer, and all to continue in his good grace and favour; nay, they are so fearfully slavish, that they approve of whatever the Prince proposes, and though the ruine of a Province depended upon it, will not seem to have sentiments differing from his.

The quality of his Princes and Lords, and their might.

THE Revenues of the commanding Lords, as appears by their specifications, are very great, and yet they have, by reason of their vast expences, enough to do with their monneys: First, they are obliged, though never so far distant from Court, to reside six moneths every year in the City of *Jedo*, to wait upon the Emperor. Those of the North and East come one half year, which being expired, they are relieved by them of the South and West, who depart with his Majesties leave, after much Ceremony, Feasting, and receiving of Presents
back

back to their several Countries. Thus they take their turn at Court, which is infinite expenſive, by reaſon of their numerous trains, ſome of them travelling to and fro with one, two, three, four, five, and ſix thouſand men. The Lord of *Firando*, (where our Eaſt-India-Company hath a Lodge) being but one of the leaſt among them, travels with three hundred Men, Gentlemen and others; and hath in his two Houſes at *ledo* above a thouſand Perſons, Men and Women. Thus each Lord lives according to his Means and Dignity, rather proſuſe then ſparing; ſo that the City ſwarms with Men and Attendance, which makes the Markets high and very dear. Their ſumptuous Buildings, their gorgeous Cloathing of their Servants, eſpecially their Women and their Attendants, their Feaſts, their Preſents, and other extraordinary Expences of that proud and pompous Court, do ſufficiently keep under theſe great Men; for their Charges ſurmount their Revenues, and they are found moſt commonly to be much behinde hand. Beſides all this his Majeſties orders, the making of ſeveral publick Buildings, as High-Ways, Channels, Caſtles, and the like, all which are divided amongſt the aforeſaid Lords then at Court, each his ſhare; which they cauſe to be made, without reſpect of expence, to the envy of

each other, with all speed and industry imaginable. The chief Lords when they build new Palaces for themselves, do besides the ordinary Gates and Doors, cause another great and sumptuous Port to be made, beautified with Statues, and wrought all with hard Wax, or Indian Lack, and richly gilt. This Entry being finished, it is covered all over with Plancks, to keep the Sun and Rain from it; and continueth so inclosed and shut up, until such time as the Emperour honours that House with his presence: After his Majesty hath passed and re-passed through the said Gate, it is wholly shut up and never opened more; no man being afterwards found worthy to go in or out at that Door, which hath been graced with the Princes entry. His Majesty doth go but once to feast in one House, all the preparations for his entertainment being made ready long before, with great care and cost; every thing being adorned with his Arms, and afterwards never used more, but preserved with great devotion, in remembrance that the Emperour did vouchsafe to eat in that House. His Majesty is always invited three years before hand, in which time the preparations fit for so royal a Guest are making. After the Emperour hath been there one day, the Princes of his blood, his Councillors, and the Kings and great Lords
are

are treated with incredible magnificence three whole Moneths together. Briefly, the building of such a Palace, and the treating of so great a Prince, is sufficient to make a rich King poor; and yet these ruining profusions are not to be avoided. When his Majesty goes a Hern-hunting, and hath taken some of those Birds, being of great esteem in those Countries, he sometimes bestows one of them upon one Favorite or other; which Present costs the Receiver at least a half years Revenue: for the Gift is so highly valued, having been taken by the Emperor's Hawks, and given with his own hands, that the whole City seems to partake of the joy, it being abundantly testified by Feasting and Presents.

The Lord of *Sasuma* had lately the honour to entertain the Emperour in his new Palace, but with better fortune then any of his greatest Princes; for his Majesty was so well pleased with his treatment, that he made him a Present (of Beans, as he pleased to term it, for his Horses) worth threescore thousand Pounds a year.

The Emperor disposes of the marriages of his great Lords, who entertain their Wives which are ordered them by him with extraordinary carresings; they receive and lodge them in their best Palaces, and allow them ten, twenty:

ty, &c. to a hundred and more Gentlemen, and Maid-Servants, according to their abilities, to wait upon them, when they go abroad to visit their Friends, which is allowed but once a year. Their Women follow them in shut Pallacquins, forty or fifty in number, each of them with two Chamber-Maids, on each side of their Pallacquins one. These Pallacquins are very richly made, wrought with Lack and inlaid with Gold, carried some nine foot from each other in good order, with great modesty. The Wife that is given by the Emperor, is the Mother of those Children which succeed in their Father's honors; but if she prove Childless, or have no Heir male, the Kingdom, or Government, is ordinarily bestowed upon a Stranger to that Race and Family. Every Lord may have as many Concubines as he pleases, or can maintain, whereby Children indeed are multiplied, though none inherit but those that are legitimate. These Lords enjoy all the pleasures they can imagine, in the fruition of their Women, Houses, Gardens, Ponds, Walks, Musick, Plays, and the like. They suffer no Men to come into their Wives Houses upon any pretence whatsoever, unless it be some few who are next of blood, and that but very seldom; these are kept close and careful; and all their Women, young and old, great and of lower

lower condition; must thus spend their time, without any manner of conversation with men; the least suspicion is punisht with death; it being no less criminal to be thought ill, then to be really so. These Attendants are choice Maids, bred up in an humble and honest manner, and so observant of their Master and Lady, that they neither speak nor smile, but as they are directed by their eye or motion. They are clothed in Silks of several colours, and distinguished into several orders; some wear red vestments, with green girdles and green head-tires; others yellow, with violet girdles and tires; others white, with red girdles and tires; and others, other such colours as they best fancy, most embroydered with Gold. Every order hath its Officers, consisting ordinarily of sixteen Persons, who are seated according to their quality, and served according to the custom of their Country. Those young Persons are all of Noble Extraction, fair, well bred, and not entertained into this service for less time then twenty years; some, nay most, for their whole lives. Many are received into service at the age of four or five and twenty, some at the age of twenty eight or thirty; and are bestowed in marriage by their Lords, upon some of their Gentlemen, or Officers, according to their merit; whom he then honours with an

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increase of stipend, besides present sums of money. Those who arrive to the age of above thirty years in their service, do ordinarily spend their whole lives there, being preferred to Offices under their Ladies. All the married Women, of what quality soever, are trained up by such rules, that they busie not themselves with the affairs of this life, or trouble their Husbands with unnecessary questions or desires, to avoid harsh returns, which are the consequences of any demands of that kinde, when ever the Husbands visit their Wives, which is never but for their own diversion; they divest themselves of all sorts of business, not resuming the consideration of it till they quit the place, where the whole treatment is entirely relating to what is amorous, as Banquets, Musick, Dancing, Plays, and the like, wherein the Women have an extraordinary dexterity and address in pleasing their Husbands. The reason they give (especially the great Ones) why their Wives are kept thus retired, and sequestred from the company of Men and business, is first, as they say, Because the Woman is to serve the Man, to divert him, to bring him Children, to give them education, and for no other end; further, to avoid jealousy and its consequences, of vexation, blood and war, which they have gathered from former experience,

rience, when their Women had more liberty; as also from tragical examples, recorded in their Histories, of divers who have been deceived and ruined by them. Their Women are ordinarily true and modest, even to blushing, whereof I shall instance an example or two: There was in the Kingdom of Fingo a Person of quality, who had a Wife of extraordinary beauty; the King caused him to be secretly murthered, and after some time sent for his Lady to Court: She obeyed; but knowing her Husband was made away by his practices, answered his importunities in these words; Mighty Prince, I ought in reason to rejoyce and account my self extream happy, in being thought worthy to serve your Majesty; yet permit me to affirm, that at the same instant you approach me, I will kill my self; but if you shall please to grant what I shall desire of you, I will give my self up to be your humble Handmaid: Allow me then the respite of thirty days, wherein I may mourn for my Husband, and cause him to be interred according to his Dignity; after which, that I may, upon the Tower of your Castle, make a Feast for my Husband's Friends, with them to put an end to my mourning. The King condescended to this request; but wondred at the curiosity of it. The Ceremony being performed, at which
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the King was present, and in a good humour, well heated with wine and his passions) the Lady withdrew to the side of the Gallery, as if she would have reposed, and upon a sudden threw her self over the walls, and broke her neck, in the presence of the King and those that were with him.

The other is of a certain Lord, who sent about through his dominions for some young Gentlewomen to attend upon his Lady; and amongst others found a poor Widows Daughter, who was so acceptable to her Lord, that he received her into the number of his Concubines. Her Mother being reduced to great wants, wrote a Letter to her, wherein she at large set forth her poverty, and the miserableness of her condition. While the Daughter was busie in reading of it, her Lord comes in, and she endeavouring to hide the Letter, he perceived it, and in great choler would know what the Letter was, from whom and from whence it came? she, ashamed to discover the poverty of her Mother, refused to tell him; whereupon he endeavored to force it from her, which she to prevent, put it into her mouth, and would have swallowed it; but not being able to get it down, it stuck in her throat and choked her. The Lord, mad with rage and jealousy, caused her immediately to be cut up.

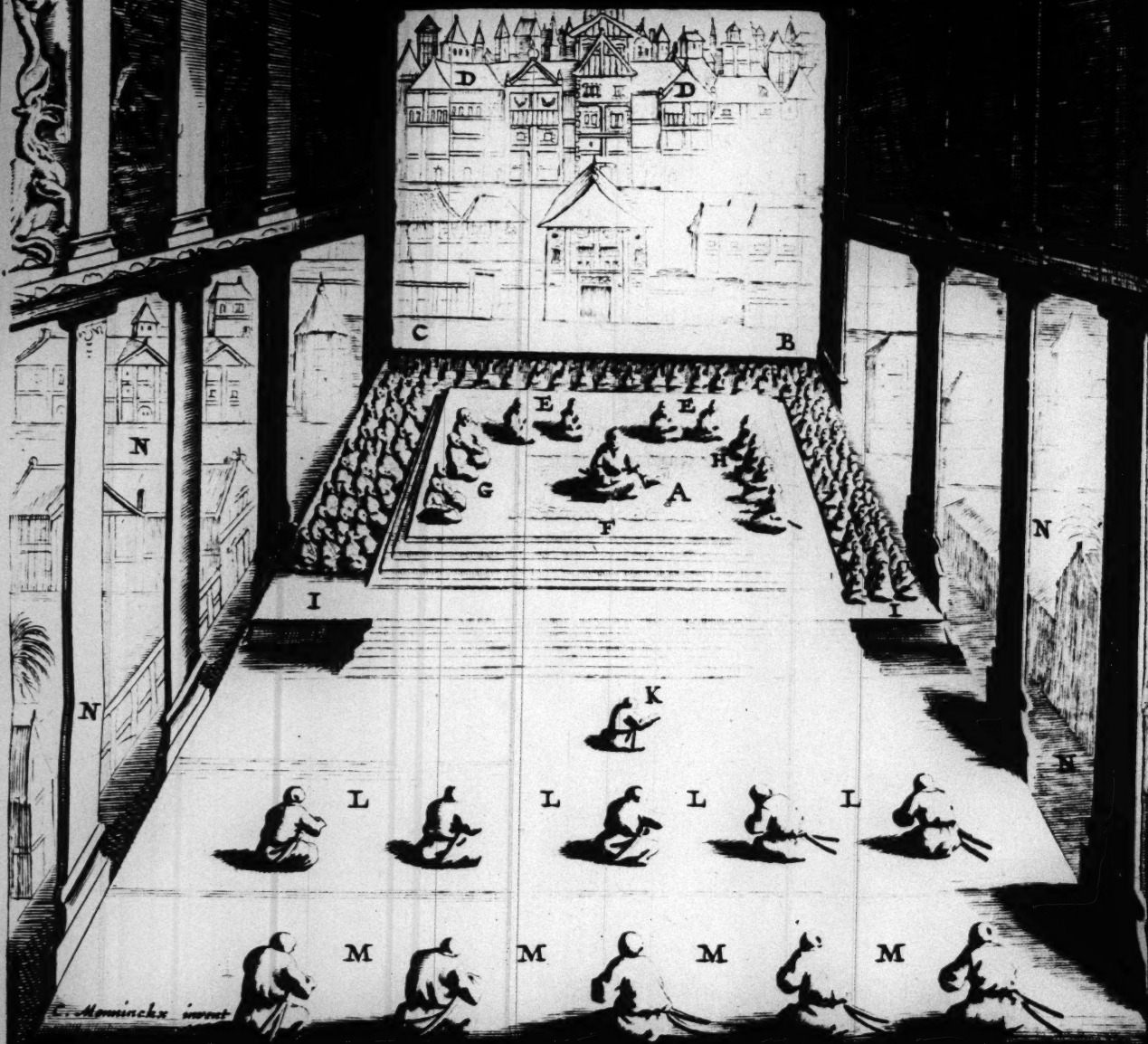
to search for the Letter; but finding the innocency of it, and that it contained only the discovery of her Mothers poverty, was so transported with grief and sorrow, that he could not refrain his tears; and in the sense of it, sent for his Concubines Mother, who at this present lives in the house with him, in much honor and esteem. The modesty of these females extends to their private conversation, so that they are very careful, even in the presence of their next of kindred, not to let fall any word which may favour of the least lightness or incontinency; not daring to speak of marriage, though lawful, nor the way to it; and if any unseemly discourse, though but in appearance, should happen, the youngest arise immediately and quit the company.

They honour and love their Parents even to devotion, believing firmly, that these who do the contrary, cannot escape the vengeance of the Gods; this piety extends to them that gave them their lives after their death; the anniversary of their decease being ceremoniously observed, by their abstaining upon that day from eating anything that hath life or motion.

But to return from whence we digressed; the Revenue of the governing Lords is diverse and various; some Countries produce Corn and Fruit, others Gold and Silver; some again
Brass,

Brass, Iron, Tin, Lead, and others again curious Manufactures, Hemp, Cotton, Silk, and the like; all which are calculated, valued, and perfectly known to the Emperor.

These ruling Princes have each of them a Chancellor, imposed by the Emperour, presented ordinarily with this following complement: *Sir, your Government is great, and your Subjects are many; and therefore I have thought fit, out of the care I have of your good, to appoint you an Assistant, being a person wise and trusty, bred up under my eyes, and in my house; employ therefore his services, and let it not be unacceptable to you that we study your welfare.* This person is received with great thanks, ceremony, feasting and presents; and (though an open Spie upon his Master's actions,) treated with much honour and respect. These Chancellors are men knowing in affairs, and such as the Emperor absolutely confides in. The more to ensure them to his interest, he causes them not only to promise and swear, but to sign likewise with their bloods, that they shall take exact account of every particular, great and small, that may concern the State; and also keep a dayly account, or Diary, of their Lords lives and actions, and send the same over to him by expresses. None of the Kings or Lords can or may do any thing of themselves, the Govern-



Afbeelding van's Keyfers Palers, mitsgaders de manier van't verlenen sijner Audie

Government of their Territories and Affairs being at the disposal of these men, as their principal Ministers.

Most of these Lords entertain alwaies by them some choice Persons for parts and understanding, only to observe their actions, and tell them of their faults; which they must exactly do without respect or flattery, for they say, no man can see his own errors so well as another, especially those who are called to govern, as more subject to the transports of passion and pride, they had therefore rather hear of their faults by their trusty Servants to correct them, then to be ill spoken of behind their backs; and for this reason these secret Monitors are alwaies near their Lords persons, especially at Feasts and publique meetings, observing their words and least actions. These Lords though they have their particular names, yet they are ordinarily called by that of their Government or residence; further every man hath three names, the children a childish, when they are men a more manly, and being become old get others suitable to the decays of nature and age: The surnames are first pronounced, for being their parents were before them, they think it but reasonable that their names should likewise precede. When one of these Lords die, ten, twenty, or thirty of his Vassals kill

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them.

themselves to bear him company: many that do so, oblige themselves to it during their Lords lives; for having received some more then ordinary grace and favour from him, and fancying themselves better beloved then their companions, they think it a shame to survive their Benefactor; and therefore in return of their thanks they usually add, *My Lord, the number of your faithful Slaves is great, but what have I done to merit this honour? this Body, which is indeed yours, I offer you again, and promise it shall not live longer then yours; I will not survive so worthy a Patron.* For confirmation of this they drink a bowl of Wine together, which is solemn; for no covenants thus made are to be broken. Those that thus binde themselves cut their own bellies, and do it as followeth: They assemble their nearest kindred, and going to Church, they celebrate the parting feast upon mats and carpets in the midst of the Plain, where having well eat and drank, they cut up their bellies, so that the guts and entrails burst out; and he that cuts himself highest, as some do even to the throat, is counted the bravest fellow, and most esteemed. If the Lord cause a wall to be buik, either for the King or himself; his Servants often times beg they might have the honour to lie under, out of a belief, that what is founded upon a living
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mans flesh, is subject to no misfortune: This request being granted, they go with joy unto the designed place, and lying down there, suffer the foundation stones to be laid upon them, which with their weight, immediately bruise and shiver them to pieces.

His Majesty hath several Castles strong and great, whereof those of *Osana* and *Iedo* are the most magnificent. The Countries belonging to the Kings and great Lords, are not much travelled by our Nation, so that we have no knowledg of them; only I am informed that they have mighty Towns and Castles: None of these Cities are walled, though their streets are regular every one, and equally long; the ends of them shut with Gates, and guarded with Watchmen by night or times of danger. The Country waies are marked at every miles end with stones or stakes, being put up for that purpose. In their Towns and Villages every street hath two Magistrates, who take care for their precinct, and must give an account for whatever happens in them; and because none through clownishness, or otherwise, may approach the Lord Governour with disrespect, they have Prolocutors appointed them, by whose intervention all lesser matters are compassed, the more difficult being reserved for the decision of the ordinary Judge.

Their manner of Justice.

THe Cities and Towns have no revenue at all, each of them depending on their Lord; neither have the Citizens, Marchants, Gentry or Commonalty any Tolls, Excise, or Contributions; they pay likewise nothing, except it be for the ground their houses stand upon, which is the Lords; and for that they give from forty shillings to two yearly, according to the greatness of their houses. Every house must finde a man upon occasion, which happeneth three or four times a year, though but for an hour, and sometimes for half a day or so. The King, or Lord, hath the whole product of the Land and Sea; the Gentlemen and Souldiers live upon that portion their Lord assigns them out of the Country; the Marchant subsists by his gaine; the Citizens and Artificers by their trades; and the Labourers by that portion which their Lord allows them out of the fruit of the earth.

*What Crimes they punish
most severely.*

EVery individual, from the Emperour to the meanest Gentleman, hath the right of Justice over his Subjects and Servants. His Majesty hath his ordinary Judges in all his Cities and Towns. When a Gentleman, or Souldier, is condemned to die, he is allowed the honour to kill himself, by cutting up his belly with his own hands; whereas the Citizen, Marchant, and meaner persons, suffer by the common Executioner. A Marchant, how rich soever, is not esteemed at all, because they say, He liveth by his lying, making no conscience to coufen and deceive the People for his filthy lucre sake: The Citizen and Artificer are likewise undervalued, because they are but Servants to the Commonalty, and forced to live by their labours and manufactures: Neither are the Country People of more account, because of the miserableness of their condition, being subject to perpetual slavery and toyling. But the Gentlemen and Souldiers, who are numerous, are honoured and feared; and they do nothing, being maintained and served by the Marchants, by the Citizens,

and by the Country Labourers. Every crime, how small soever, is punished with death; especially theft, although but to the value of a penny; gaming, and playing for money, is no less heinous then murder: and all other Delinquents which deserve the rigour of Justice with us in Europe, undergo the same penalty here. Every one suffers for his own faults, except the matter be treasonable, and then the Father, Brothers and Sons must likewise suffer, and their goods be confiscated; and the Mothers, Sisters, and Daughters be given away and sold for slaves. These confiscations are not due to the Emperour, King, or Lord in whose Territories they happen, but are reserved under account for publick uses, as building of Churches, making of Bridges, repairing of High-waies, and the like.

It happened in my time, that a proud fellow presented his service to a poor Gentleman, demanding of him, by reason of his address and parts, more wages then he knew the Gentleman could give; who vexed at the youths impertinencies, and perceiving he jeered him, replied with a composed countenance, *Friend, you demand indeed much wages, but being I think you will deserve it, and that you are pleasing in my eyes, I am content to receive you into*
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my service. Three daies after his Master sent him on an errand; being returned, he was accused for staying out so long, so as no excuses would save his life; being forced to pay for his insolency under this colourable pretence. The Lord of *Finando* did lately cause three Gentlewomen of his Ladies attendants, to be shut up in Chests spiked with nails on every side, because one of them had had some conversation with a certain Gentleman, (who was likewise condemned to die, and his belly cut up) and that the other two, knowing of their companions practices, had not discovered them. Who ever findes his Wife in a lockt or shut chamber with another man, may lawfully kill them both; the which, though very rarely, hath indeed happened: If the Husband be absent, then his Father, Brother, Son, or next of kin, nay a Servant may do it; so that Adultery is seldom or never heard of amongst them. A certain Gentleman, being jealous of his Wife, pretended a journey from home; but returning unexpectedly back, found another Man with his Wife in the chamber; transported with jealousy and revenge, he instantly kills the amased Gallant, and binding his Wife to a ladder, let her stand there thus chained all night. Next morning he sent to invite all his and her kindred, Men and Women,

to dinner; which however contrary to their customs, each sex feasting and eating alwaies apart, was through his importunity assented unto. The Women, who sat in a chamber by themselves, ignorant of what had happened, enquired often for the Lady of the house; to which her Husband made answer, that she was busie in ordering their entertainment, she would wait upon them immediatly. The Guests being all sat, Men and Women together, and dinner half done, the Husband went and cut off the privities of his slain Rival, and putting them into a covered Box of Lack, or Wax, deckt with flowers, unbound his Wife, and clothing her in a winding sheet, with her hair loose and hanging over her shoulders, gave it her, she not knowing what was in it, adding, *Go and carry it to our Friends at dinner, and try whether for their sakes I may not pardon you also.* The poor Woman, half dead and distracted with fear, did as her Husband commanded her, and entering in this dreadful posture, fell on her knees before the company, and opened the Box, at sight whereof she sunk down in a swoond, and being close followed by her Husband, had her head immediatly struck off by him; at which horrid sight the affrighted Guests ran all out of the house.

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Those faults which are accounted criminal amongst them, are the breaking of the Emperours commands and orders; Peculation, or robbing his Majesties Revenues; false coyning, burning of houses, rapes, and the ill governing of those in Authority; he that is guilty of any of these crimes, is punished in his person and posterity; if it be a Woman that hath offended, she suffers alone; nor shall she die for anothers sin, only be given away or sold. Their punishments are roasting, burning, crucifying both waies, drawing with four Bulls, and boyling in Oyl and Water. A man who was to deliver Wood and Stone to his Majesties Factours, had corrupted some Souldiers and others appointed for the service; this being discovered, the Overseers were ordered to cut up their bellies; but the Marchant was crucified with his heels upward. This man, being a man of parts, was in good esteem with the Councillors and great ones at Court, and however it be, that it is not lawful to intercede for a criminal, yet the aforesaid Grandees, out of pity and affection to the Delinquent, having consulted together, adventured to supplicate his Majesty in his behalf; whereupon they received this following answer. *I have understood your desires with wonder; but that which troubles me most*

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is, that the unreasonableness of the demands obliges me to suspect your judgements; shall not the evil doer die? whence then proceedeth this your request? or are your hearts likewise corrupted with gifts and gold? change your purposes, and let justice have her course, and then if any amongst you desire riches, let them go to my Treasure and satisfy themselves; go, I give you full liberty to do it. This reply did so startle the Petitioners, that they retired, not daring to make any further instance, or speak one word more.

They have a peculiar method in punishing of crimes, which I will also relate: It happened (as it did in my time) that a Gentleman, appointed Governour of a Lordship near the imperial City of *Jedo*, had forced his Tributaries to pay more then they were obliged to by their ordinary Tax and Contributions, with which surplus he had Lorded it for some time; but this Exaction continuing, the Inhabitants supplicated his Majesty for relief; whereupon the Gentleman, together with his whole race, were ordered to cut up their bellies. The said Governour had a Brother in the service of the King of *Fingo*, two hundred and forty Dutch miles Westward from *Jedo*; an Uncle at *Satsuma*, twenty miles further; a Son in the service of King *Kinocoumy*;
another

another Son in the service of the King of *Masamme*, an hundred and ten miles Eastward; a third Son with the Governour of the Imperial Castle of *Inquano*; with two Brothers more, that were Souldiers in his Majesties Guards at *Jedo*; his youngest Son was upon extraordinary solicitations bestowed upon a Marchants Daughter, who was an only Child and very rich: All these Persons, however East and West distant from each other, died in one day, and on the same hour; for Posts were sent to all places where these unhappy men did live, with orders to the Governours, that they should cause them upon the eighth day of the eighth Moneth, (the day limited for their execution) when the Sun was in the South, to cut up their bellies, according to the usual manner; which was exactly performed. The aforesaid Marchant, well known to our Society, dwelt at *Osaua*, but died for grief; and his Daughter, unwilling to survive her Husband, would (if she had not been prevented) have killed her self; yet she could not be hindred to destroy that life, which was but loathsome to her after so dear a loss; for she abstained wholly from eating, and expired (concluding this fatal Tragedy with her own) the eleventh day after. The People of this Nation, especially the Women, die with strange
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constancy and assurance, without any the least emotion of sorrow or weakness.

Lyes are likewise punished with death, especially if told to Magistrates or Lords; neither will any Master pardon that crime in his Servant. These aforesaid manners of putting to death, belong to the Gentry, the Soldiers, Marchants, Citizens and Peasants; but the Kings and transgressing Lords are otherwise punished: There is a little Island, three miles in compass, and distant forty two miles from *Jedo*, called *Faisnichina*, so still and environed with rocks and precipices, that no ships of burthen can approach it: it was at first attempted in very calm weather by certain desperate fellows, who climbing up those rocks, made a shift to get on the tops of them; and having pulled up with ropes materials and necessary instruments for their purpose, fastened beams and strong posts in the rocks in such wise, that by the help of pullies and ropes, and strong hanging nets, they can winde the boats up some fathoms out of the water, and so secure them against the tossing of the Sea; whose least agitation throws them against the Island, and dashes them in pieces, as it happened to the loss of many a man before this expedient was found. The Island it self is very stony and barren, arable but in some few places;
it

it is hither that the offending Grandees are banished, and close kept from all manner of communication or correspondence from without with strict guards of Souldiers, who have their stations upon all the several corners of the Island for that purpose : These Guards, if winde and weather permit, are relieved every moneth precisely, at which time they receive provision for themselves, as also for the exiled, which is but a little Rice, a few Beans, some Roots, and other such hard fare: they lodg in little low hutches, which cannot protect them from either against the Summers heat or Winters cold; and they must work, and gather Silk from the Worms, which are fed and kept there, as also card, spin, and weave such a portion as is yearly ordered them by their task-Masters.

In the year one thousand six hundred thirty one, when his late Majesty died, all sorts of Prisoners, under the obedience of the Japanish Empire, none excepted, were all (in one day and hour) set at liberty, and money given to those that were poor to begin the world again with.

What Divine Service they use.

THIS Nation is neither very superstitious nor very devout; they seldom or never pray; and such are counted for religious, who go to Church once in a moneth; they sometimes use the word *Nammanda*, which is the name of one of their chiefest Deities. The Priests preach ordinarily three times every year, being only then attended by those of his Sect; others of another belief, make use of their Hermits in their sickness, who read and mumble (as if they were possessed) their Orisons for twenty four hours together over the Patient, without being understood of any; for all their Divinity, as well as their Physick, are writ and printed in an elevated style, not to be fathomed or comprehended but by the learned.

What Churches they have.

THEY have many Temples and Churches dedicated to their Idols, every one of them inhabited by their Priests, two, ten, or twenty, according to their greatness and revenues.

What

What Priests they entertain.

THeir Priests do but little; they read sometimes before their Idols, and bury the dead, who are most of them first burnt, their ashes being afterwards committed to the earth with their usual ceremonies.

What Sects are prevalent among them.

They have twelve Sects in all; the Priests of the first eleven eat nothing that hath lived, nor may marry: when they offend by transgressing their order, the Delinquent is buried to the middle in the High-way, every one that passeth, and is no Gentleman, being obliged to give him a stroak in the neck with a wooden saw, ready for the purpose; so that the miserable Priest is two or three daies, sometimes more, in this languishing condition before he can die. The twelfth Sect is the most esteemed and most honourable of all; their Priests marry, and they may eat of what ever the sea or earth produtes, according to their several appetites. This Sect, called *Ieko*, or *Iekow*, is the most superstitious of all, and

and hath its Pope, or Head, respected and served with the same honour with their Kings, When this high Priest passeth through the streets, carried in his *Pallaquin*, they of his faith, worship and pray to him; and this indeed is the richest and easiest order amongst them, and most countenanced. Some of their Churches are privileged and endowed by the Emperour, or Lords, in whose Territories they stand; but the rest are maintained by the common people: and as each particular man amongst the Papists hath his particular ghostly Father, so the Inhabitants here have theirs; as also their Churches, which they assist with their charity to the utmost of their powers. Each of these twelve Sects hath its particular Faith; some believe that the soul is immortal, that the flesh is earth; and that the spirit of man shall live in another world, happy or miserable, according to what he hath done in this. Others think that there is no such thing as a separable soul, and that they need fear nothing but the Executioner; they are ignorant of the beginning and ending of nature, most of them fancying the world without beginning, and that it shall be eternal. The best of these Sects make Taverns of their Temples, which are most commonly built in the pleasantest and best places, sumptuous,
and

and well planted with trees and orchards : When the Inhabitants have a minde to rejoyce, they assemble here , and in the presence of their Gods , and company of their Priests, (who are likewise good fellows) they debauch and do those extravagances, which are the concomitants of excess and folly ; common whores are permitted to enter and dance, the Priests themselves allowing of this jolity, and a further use , so it be in secret of these immodest females. I never heard that those people trouble themselves to dispute or argue in their religion ; neither do they break their heads in converting others to their opinions ; but leave every one to the freedom of his own, as indifferent and reasonable, as being infused into him by their Gods. Their Priests, as well as many of the Gentry, are much given to Sodomy , that unnatural passion , being esteemed no sin, nor shameful thing amongst them.

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The

The persecution of the Romish Christians.

THose of this Countrey which were converted to Christianity by the Romish Clergy, were them only which were persecuted; At first they cut off their heads, and afterwards crucified them, which seemed then very severe; but when these cruel Idolaters perceived that death was not formidable to those martyred Christians, who went to their executions with singing and dancing, as if they courted their torments, and that the great numbers of them that suffered did no way discourage or diminish the remaining, but rather strengthen and increase their multitudes, they resolved to break them by more exquisite and sensible tortures, to this purpose they bound them to stakes, and roasted them alive, destroying thousands after this unsufferable manner: But seeing yet there was no end, and that death in what shape soever was not terrible enough to affright those resolved Saints to an Apostacy, they intended and practiced other more dreadful waies and pains, for to oblige them to quit and change their opinions and religion; they forced the
women

women and more tender maids to go upon their hands and feet bowing, supporting and dragging them naked in the presence of thousands through the streets; that done, they caused them to be ravished and lain with by Russians and Villains, and then throwing them so stript and abused, into great deep tubs full of Snakes and Adders, which crept by several passages into their bodies, suffered them to perish after unspeakable miseries in that fearful manner: they thrust hurds into the Mothers privities, and binding the Sons about with the same combustible matter, thrust and forced them, as also the Fathers and Daughters, to set fire each to other, whereby they underwent unconceivable torments and pains: some they clothed with fods, and pouring hot scalding water continually upon them, tortured them in that manner till they died, which dured two or three daies, according to the strength of the party; hundreds of them being stript naked, and burnt in the foreheads that they might be known, were driven into the Woods and Forrests, all men being commanded by Proclamation, upon pain of death, not to assist them with either meat, drink, clothing or lodging; many more put into pin-folds upon the Sea-shore, and kept there half their time dry and half wet, being every tide

overflown by the Sea; but these were permitted to eat and drink, to keep them longer alive in this misery, which lasted ordinarily ten or twelve daies. These bloody Executioners put out the Parents eyes, and placing their little Children by them, pinched and plagued them whole daies long, enforcing them with tears of blood to call and cry to their helpless Fathers and Mothers for an end of their sufferings, which had no period but with their lives, whilest their woful Parents, unable to assist either their Children or themselves, did often die in their presence, whom they could not see for grief or sorrow. All these miseries, too long and too many to relate, were borne by the poor Christians with constancy to a miracle; except some few, who not able to resist the bitterness of these torments abandoned their Faith, for some relaxation from pain. Once a year they precisely renewed their Inquisition, and then every individual person must sign in their Church-books, with his blood, that he renounces Christianity; and yet all would not do, for many hundreds of Christians are found every year, and destroyed with variety of torments. At last they found a more hellish and exquisite way of torturing then before; they hung these sufferers by the heels, their heads in pits, which

to give the blood some vent, they flast light-ly cross-waies, (but they do that now no more) and in this posture they live several daies, ten or twelve, and speak sensibly to the very last: The greatness of this torment surpasseth all other, being beyond all humane strength to suffer and be undergone, but by such who are extraordinarie strengthened from above. This extremitie hath indeed (by reason of its continuance) forced many to renounce their religion; and some of them who had hung two or three daies, assured me that the pains they endured were wholly unsufferable, no fire nor no torture equalling their languor and violence.

The Christians being now almost rooted out, there is an order, that when one is found and condemned to be hanged by the heels, he shall be pardoned, in case he informeth against and produces another, which is now too much practised, for Apostacy helps no more, and they cannot resist the torments of hanging, but are thus forced to betray one another: neither will this help these miserable creatures, for I have been assured that they register the names of such who were permitted formerly to fall off, as also of such who by their discovering of others saved their own lives, with an intent, that when they suppose

that they have the entire number and catalogue of all them who have and do yet profess Christ, they may destroy them all in one day. During these bloody and savage persecutions, it happened that some Christian Children, because of their beautie, were begged and saved; but many of them of eight, ten, and twelve years old, &c. refused this grace, protesting with courage, to a wonder, that they would not live, they did not fear death; but would go where their Parents went, into that joy where they should be no more tormented; Some of these Children who had not this force, but desired to live and survive these pains, were violentlie hurried to their deaths by their Parents, with these comforting words; *Come my Children, do not live with these wicked wretches, I will bring you into a land that is rich and beautiful, where we shall continue for ever in joy and happiness.* The common sort of Christians were but simplie bound when they were led to their executions; but the Priests, whether Portugals, Spaniards or Japaners, had the hair of their heads and beards half shaven off, the shaven part being coloured red; bits were also put in their mouthes, to hinder them from speaking; and their heads being pulled backwards, with halters put about their necks and tied behind

hinde them, they were compelled to hold their faces directly upwards; and thus sitting upon a lean horse, they were carried to the place designed for their martyrdom. I should be larger in the prosecution of these sad relations, but that I leave them to their particular story hereafter annexed.

How this Nation lives in their Houses and Families.

All the houses in this Country are built of wood and timber, which is likewise their fuel; hence their houses are much subject to burning, one of the plagues very frequent in their Towns; for this cause each house hath its pack-house of proof against the fire, wherein they keep their best and choise goods. The houses are all built four foot high from the earth, made of planks closely covered with thick mats very artificially joyned, resembling each other and uniform; they dwell most below, their upper rooms being employed to keep their smaller household stuffs; but their best Chambers, where they receive and entertain their Friends, are neat and sumptuous, according to their several abilities. The Souldiers and Gentry

have their houses divided, one side for their Wives, and the other for them, for their Friends and their ordinary vocation. The Marchants and Citizens Wives dwell promiscuously with their Husbands, governing and ordering their families as with us; but are very modest, and never spoken to but with respect, none presuming to use any freedom in discourse with them, although otherwise innocent and harmless, for both the man that took, and the woman that permitted this familiarity would be equally slighted, and blamed and looked upon as culpable and scandalous. Their household-stuff consists ordinarily in fine painted gilt dishes, instead of pictures; the walls of their chambers are also for the most part painted with variety of figures, and laid with gilt paper so curiously, as if it were but one large sheet; the boards round about being beautified with lists of black Wax, very artificially wrought; most of their rooms are divided with shuts, prepared and painted as the walls are, which being taken out, enlarges the rooms at pleasure. In the upper end of this partition they have a picture with a pot full of flowers, which they have ready all the year long; and at the lower end there is alwaies a gallery, with stairs to descend into their gardens, which are alwaies green,

green, and so placed, that they in the hall have the full prospect of it. They do not furnish and adorne their Houses with Chests, Cupboards, Wax-works, and the like, these are alwaies in their free-Chambers, or pack-houses, where none is suffered to enter, but their familiar and most intimate Servants and Friends. Their chief furniture which they expose, are *Tsia* Cups and Pots, Pictures, Manuscripts, and Sables, which each provides himself of, rich and goodly, according to his condition and might.

*How they receive each other,
and of their Hospitality.*

THe Japanners are very hospitable and civil to such as visit them, they treat them with Tobacco and with *Tsia*, and if the friend be more then ordinary, with Wine: They cause them first to sit down, and setting a Lack bowl before them, will not suffer them to depart before they have tasted of it; they sing, they pipe, and play upon such stringed instruments as they have, to rejoyce their Guests, omitting no manner of carouses and kindnesses to testifie their welcome, and the value they put upon their conversation. They
never

never quarrel in their debauches; but he that is first drunk retires and sleeps, until the fumes of the wine be evaporated. There is no such thing as Tavern or publick drinking House in all the Countrey; they eat, drink and are merry, but all in their own houses, not refusing lodging and refreshment for the traveller and stranger.

Of their Conjugal State.

THese People neither make love nor woo, all their marriages being concluded by their Parents, or for want of such near relations, by the next of kin. One Man hath but one Wife, though as many Concubines as he can keep; and if that Wife do not please him, he may put her away, provided he dismiss her in a civil and honorable way. Any Man may lie with a Whore, or common Woman, although he be married, with impunitie; but the Wife may not so much as speak in private with another Man, as is already said, without hazarding her life. What is said of divorce, relates only to the Citizen, Marchant, and common Souldier; a Gentleman or Lord may not put away his Wife, although she should not please him, and that out of respect to her quality

quality and his own Person ; he must maintain her according to her condition and necessities ; but may freely divert himself with his Concubines and Women, and when the humor takes him with his own Wife again. This liberty that the Men have , obliges the Women to observe their Husbands, and endeavour to endear them to them, by an humble compliance and submission to their humors , being sure else to lose them , and see their Rivals preferred before them. Open Whore-houses are publickly allowed of, as well for the use and conveniency of Batchelors, as to prevent the debauching of young Maids and married Women.

Of the bringing up of their Children.

CHildren are carefully & tenderly brought up ; their Parents strike them seldom or never, and though they cry whole nights together, endeavour to still them with patience ; judging that Infants have no understanding, but that it grows with them as they grow in years , and therefore to be encouraged with indulgence and examples.

It is remarkable to see how orderly and how modestly

modestly little Children of seven or eight years old behave themselves; their discourse and answers favouring of riper age, and far surpassing any I have yet seen of their times in our Country. None go to School under seven or eight years of age, as being until then incapable of its rules, and more inclined to play than to learn, unless it be waggishness and wantonness. At School they begin by degrees, by sweetness and not by force, the Masters imprinting an ambition and desire in each of them to out-go his fellow; they lead them likewise by examples, telling them that such and such learned so much in so little time, whereby his Honour and Family was so highly advanced. The Children are so accustomed to this way, that they learn sooner and more than by any correction or whipping; for generous spirits, and an obstinate Nation, such as this is, are not to be forced, but rather won with gentleness and emulation.

What

What Succession ab intestato.

WHen the Parents are grown old , and the Children come to be Men, the Father then quits his Government, Commerce, Shop or Trade, placing his eldest Son in his room, and giving him the greatest part of his Estate ; the younger Children are likewise provided for by the indulgent Parents, although their portions return to the eldest in case they die before them. Daughters have no portions at all, nor nothing given them at their marriage ; sometimes it happens that rich Parents send a good sum of money with their Daughter, upon their marriage day, to their Son in law ; which present is returned by the Bridegroom & his Parents with much thanks, being unwilling that the Bride should have any colourable excuse to raise her into an opinion of having obliged her Husband : The poorer sort do but seldom return these offers as needing them , and glad of any augmentation of their Friends. They have a common saying, that a Woman hath no constant dwelling, living in her youth with her Friends, being married with her Husband, and when she is old with her Child.

Whether

*Whether they be faithfull or
false in their dealings.*

THIS Nation is very trusty, and that out of their ambition, the only mark they aim at; hence it is that they seldom wrong each other, esteeming their honours above their lives and hopes: examples of this kinde are frequent amongst them, I will only relate one. During the civil Wars between *Ongoschio* and his Puple, the King of *Cocora* (who followed the Usurper) had left his Queen and Children, as the fashion is, at the Emperours Court; *Fideri* having notice of this revolt, sent for *Cocora's* Wife and Children to come into the Castle, the better to secure them; which the Lady refused, excusing her self, *That she was married, and under the obedience of her King, as he was under his imperial Majesty; let him command her Lord, and she would most readily, upon receipt of his orders, submit to his Highness pleasure.* The Emperour, angry at this denial, sent her word, if she would not come, he would cause her to be brought by force. The Queen, who thought no dishonour equal to that of quitting her house in her Husbands absence, and seeing she could not con-
serve

serve her self in it against the Emperours fury, resolved to perish with it; she therefore commanded some barrells of Gun-powder to be brought into a Chamber, where she retired with her Children, Nurse, and such of her Women who were resolved to die with her; and there writing her Will and her own Elegy, she conveyed them by a trusty Gentleman in her service to her Lord; and immediatly thereupon, putting fire to the Powder, prevented that loss of honour which she feared, and the Emperours design by that fatal blow. If it happen that a person be in a strait and engaged, and comes to another for assistance, recommending the protection of his life and honour to his generosity, this Man will hazard all, without respect of Wife and Children; for the service of his Friend, and perish or deliver him out of his distress and misfortune; they will die, nay suffer the worst of tortures, rather then discover their complices, although in evil, thinking the breach of covenants in-expiable; and the dishonour of not helping their neighbour, and one that hath thrust him into misery, worse then any death whatsoever.

What Traffick and with what Nations.

THE Trade of this Country (which is but small in respect of the vastness of it, and it abounds with all sorts of Merchandise) is carried on by Strangers, the principal whereof are the Chineses, who from the first peopling of this Empire to this day, have been constant frequenters of their yearly Marts. The Spaniards and Portugals have been acquainted with this People above an hundred years; the English but of late, who finding but little profit and great expences, abandoned this Traffick again. The *Siammers* and *Camboiders* used also to arrive with a ship or two, though not now so often as formerly. Lastly the Netherlander got footing there, where they have seated themselves fast enough, and traded these forty years. The principal Commodities, as well those which Strangers bring, as such which are of the growth of the Country, are all brought to the great City of *Meaco*, which is the Staple of the whole Empire; it is here that the Merchants and Factors, from every part of the Land, do assemble, bringing with them such things as their

their several Provinces do produce, which they sell or change for others which they stand in need of. These Merchandises are carried sometimes two or three hundred miles to and fro, over hills and dales, all upon horses, whereof they have an incredible number. The Traffick consists of all sorts of wares, as well for the pride as use of man; Strangers bring yearly four or five thousand Picols of Silk, each Picol weighing one hundred twenty five pounds weight, besides a great quantity of wrought Silks; two hundred thousand Harts-skins; one hundred thousand Rochvellen-skins; a great abundance of Hemp, Cloth, Cotton, and red Wool; Carpets to sit upon, Pewter, Quick-silver, and all sorts of Drugs; Nutmegs, Peper, Musk, Sugar, Porcelan, Camphier, Borax, Eliphants-Teets, red Coral, and all sorts of small Wares, which the Chineses bring thither.

What domestick Trading, and Navigation.

HERE are many very rich Merchants who drive great Trades, these go themselves, or have Factours at *Meaco*, where they exchange their Commodities for Silver, Gold,

or other Wares, each according to his fancy and convenience. The *Japanners* of old had great correspondencie with them of *China*, whose Kings sent Ambassadors yearly to each other, for entertaining their alliance; and the negotiation of their Subjects; it happened that the *Japanners*, who were numerous in *China*, did mutiny, and in a tumult destroy a whole City, plundering, ravishing, and spoyling all; but the *Chineses*, getting into a body, fell upon the *Japanners* again, and put all they could meet with to the sword. The King of *China* hearing of these discords, was no less amazed then in a wonder, that so few could do so much mischief, and therefore resolved to banish the *Japanners* for ever out of his Kingdom; in memory whereof he caused a great Stone Pillar to be set up, with the story of their exile in letters of Gold. He likewise set out a Proclamation, that none of his Subjects, upon paine of death, should saile any more to *Japan*; which order was then more exactly observed then at present, and yet they do not directly go thither; for the *Chineses*, under a colour of other voyages, do often slip into *Japan*. The Emperour of *Japan* doth now at all obstruct their traffick, permitting them to enter and leave his Countrey when they please, Saying he will not reward evil for evil;

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considering also that the reason of this prohibition, on the other side, came not through any fault of the *Chineffes*, but by the disorders of his own People. Since the *Japanners* have been banished out of *China*, they used to sail to *Tayouan*, where the *Chineffes* brought them their Merchandises; but that being discovered by the Court of *China*, they were prohibited this Traffick likewise. Many years after the *Japanners* obtained leave to return to *Tayouan*, as also to go to *Touckien*, *Cambodia*, and *Sian*; which negotiation was again disturbed, upon this consideration, that the Emperour of *Japan* would neither offend nor be offended by any Strangers, which had already happened by the extortions of the Governours of *Sian* and *Tayouan*; and therefore none of his Subjects should any more traffick or deal with Strangers out of their own Country: Another reason was, because he would have no Arms transported out of his Empire, (which could not be hindred by no way but this) insomuch that two *Chineffes*, Father and Son, were both crucified at *Finando*, for endeavouring to convey some away in private; and five *Japanners*, who had sold them the said Arms, without knowing their design, were beheaded. But the chief cause of this inhibition is, lest the Natives of this Country, travelling

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velling into strange places, might be converted to the Christian Religion, and upon their returne infuse those forraigne principles into their Country-Men, which they have endeavoured to suppress with so much blood and violence.

The Profits amounting thence.

Neither the Emperour, nor his subordinate Kings or Lords, do gain any thing at all by the Commerce of their Subjects, the Merchants onely profit by it, although the gaine be not extraordinary, by reason of the greatness of the Country, the charge of transport, and the multitudes of people which must live by it.

Their correspondency with Strangers.

THe *Japanners* hold no correspondency at all abroad, having never yet sent their Ambassadours into any forraigne Countries, except *China*, which they have also long discontinued. The King of *Spain*, the Pope, and the King of *Siam*, have sent several extraordinary

ordinary Ambassadors to this Court, which were indeed honourably received and feasted, though never any returns made again by this Prince.

The Commodities which Japan yeildeth.

THERE is nothing necessary for the use of Man, but this Country doth abundantly produce, as Silver, Gold, Brasse, Iron, Tin and Lead, in great quantity; also Cotton, Hemp, Silk, Filoselle, Harts-skins, Wooden Manufactures, Drugs, and whatever can be required to feed and cloath its innumerable inhabitants.

Their Mint, Measures, and Weights.

THE *Japanners* have one Language, one fashion in their Clothes, one Mint, and one Weight; they have indeed besides their Gold and Silver Coins, a sort of Copper Monies, which they call *Casies*, and is of differing value in many of the Kingdoms; but his Majesty hath resolved to re-coin these *Casies*

into one fashion, to which end he hath ordered all the old ones to be called in, and bought them of their owners at their full worth and price, wherewith his Officers have been busied these four years. They have three sorts of Gold coin; the first and greatest weigheth six Royals, and is worth forty six Tayles, each Tayle being valued at fifty seven Stivers, or Pennies: the second sort is worth six Tayles and one half; and the third (being the least) one and one sixth of a Tayle. Their Silver Money is of the Alloy of Dollers, cast into long figures, of no certain weight, but by guess; they put so many of these together as weigh fifty Tayles, the which being neatly lapped up in papers, are distributed as occasion serveth: They have yet a lesser Silver coin like a Bean, weighing from one Dutch Shilling to ten; and lastly the Cassens, already mentioned, of differing worth, from one Doller to three, one fourth, the thousand. Their Yard, the Measure of their Grain, and their Weights, are equal and not differing at all.

What Beasts and Fowl they have.

THis Countrey produceth Horses, Bulls, (for they never geld their Cattle) Cows, Deare, and Swine, both wilde and tame, in great abundance: There are likewise plenty of Bears, Dogs, Cats, and the like; there is no end of their Fowl, especially Swans, Geese, Ducks, Herons, Eagles, Hawks, Pheasants, Pigeons, Snipes, Quails, Partridges, and all manner of lesser Birds.

What Medicinal Waters.

They have several Fountains and Springs of hot Medicinal Waters, proper for the curing of many Diseases, and successfully used for that purpose; some are Sulphurous, some taste of Copper, others Iron, Tin, Allom, and the like Mettals and Minerals, partaking of the qualities of those they pass by. I have seen of these Springs, one whereof being Tinith, burst out of a hollow in the side of a Mountain, some ten foot in the round; this hole was, by reason of its depth, very obscure

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within,

within, its Orifice, or Mouth, being strangely beset with sharp Stones, not much unlike the short teeth of an Elephant, or those which Painters appropriate to Divels. The Water flows continually out of this Cavern in a great quantity, and is not hot, but a man may sit in without disturbance. I have seen another at the foot of a Mountain near the Sea, which rendered its Water but at times, ordinarily twice in twenty four hours, but this flowing did not continue above an hour; when the winde blows East and stiffly, it flows thrice, and sometimes four times in a day and night: This Water rises out of a stony Pit, being covered with huge massie Stones of very great weight; when the time of flowing comes, it bursts out of the earth in so great a quantity, and with such a forceable winde, that those great Stones are violently moved and shaken, the streams gushing and spouting three or four fathoms high, with so dreadful a noise that it equals that of a Cannon, or the falls of the greatest Rivers: This Water is so very hot, that it is impossible to boyl ordinary Water to its height; it singes where it falls, and left to its self continues hot thrice longer then any other. This Well is surrounded with a Wall for fear of harm, little Conduits being made to convey its Streams to the neighbouring houses,

houses, where it is used by way of bath, for the curing of all distempers and maladies.

*How the Kings, Princes, and
Peers of the Kingdom, re-
ceive Audience of his
Imperial Majesty,
and what train they
must have.*

THe solemn and great feasts of this People are manifold, the first and greatest is New-Years-Day, then the second and third Day of the third Moneth, the third and fifth Day of the fifth Moneth, the fourth and seventh Day of the seventh Moneth, and the fifth and ninth Day of the ninth Moneth. Besides these, his Majesty gives publick Audience twice every Moneth, at new and full Moon, to all his Kings, Princes, Lords, and Gentry, who according to their qualities and orders, do homage and reverence to him. The train and attendance of these Grantees are appointed, the greatest of them may not exceed an hundred followers; the lesser being
alto.

also stinted and proportioned according to their revenues. Some of these Princes have indeed four or five thousand, as well Men as Women, in their services, but these they keep in their Palaces, and may not enter the first ring of the Castle, nor into the City with them: Now such as are permitted to come into these two places with an hundred Servants, may not enter the second ring of the Castle with more then twenty Attendants; neither may they be seen there on horse-back, it being the dwellings of the Princes of the blood, and the Councillours: the great ones are carried here in Pallaquins or Sedans, others of less quality going on foot; which is no difficult thing, the waies and streets being finely paved, and the middle of them set with great flat free-stones, which are kept extraordinary neat and clean: But no Man whosoever is suffered to enter the third ring of the Castle, where the Emperours Palace is, but on foot, and only accompanied with two Servants, and a Boy to carry his shoes; they of the second rank are allowed but one Servant and a Shoe-carrier; and those of the last rank only a Shoe-carrier. There never happens any the least disorder, running, playing, bawling, or confusion among the people at these shows, every one continuing in a serious and silent posture, as
if

if they were in the Emperours presence. Every one in this Proceſſion marches in his order and rank, ſo that there is not the leaſt ſtir even amongſt the Servants. The Souldiers ſtand in the Galleries we formerly mentioned, and certain ſworn Commiſſioners go to and fro, to obſerve both them and all others, ſo that the leaſt ſtir and noiſe is capital: This ſtrictneſs is not burthenſome, but grown ſo familiar by cuſtom, that the leaſt irregularity or tumult is not heard of. The ſame order is obſerved in all the Towns of the Countrey, the ſtreets being all uniform, each end of each of them being ſhut with Barrocadoes in the night, and kept with watches; ſo that no body is ſuffered to go out without a Ticket from the chief Magiſtrate, which is delivered to the Magiſtrate of the ſtreet, for the convenience of thoſe who need them, to fetch a Midwife, Phyſitian, or ſome near Friend in caſe of neceſſity, the Barrocadoes are opened to ſuch meſſengers as theſe, and none elſe; ſo that they never have any tumults in their ſtreets, robberies, murthers, houſe-breakings, or any ſuch unwarrantable diſorders.

Their

*Their Language , manner of
VVritings and Reckonings,
and how far they trans-
mit their History to
posterity.*

THe *Chineses, Iapanners, Corees and Tor-
quains*, have their distinct Languages,
wholly strange to each other ; neither have
their Characters any resemblance , and yet
they have another fashion of Letter common,
and understood by the Studious and Learned
of these four Nations ; in this their Sciences
& Wisdom are written, although the Contents
and Characters be general , understood and
read by each in his own Tongue. They write
with Peppels, and ready enough ; most of their
Errands are done by Letters, which, by rea-
son of their quickness in dispatch, is no let to
them, and the surer way ; A man that can con-
tract much matter into few lines, and intelli-
gible , which is that which they all practice,
is greatly esteemed amongst them ; for such
they imploy to write their Letters, Petitions,
and

f and the like to great persons ; and truly it is admirable to see how full of substance , and with how few words these sort of writings are penned. They have not the Italian manner of keeping of Books, and yet fail not in their calculations ; they reckon with little pellets, stuck upon little sticks upon a board, for the same purpose, after the manner of the (*hineses* ; wherewith they will add, multiply, and divide , with more facility and certainty then we with Counters.

They have many Books and Libraries, though the common people are most illiterate: The *Deyro* himself writeth the Annales of his Country ; and all other Books are written by himself or his Lords and Gentlemen , (which are at least eight hundred strong) or by their Wives and Women ; for these Gallants, as well Men as Women, being of kin, and married into each other, do nothing but spend their time in all worldly pleasures , and the studies of humain knowledge. Men are esteemed and honoured with Titles , in this Court, according to the merit of their understanding, not their births ; and it happens sometimes, that the greatest are by their weakness and folly brought down and unconsidered. These Grandees, proud with their birth and breeding, consider no body but themselves, neither

neither converse with any save only their own Comrades ; for their dwellings and streets joyn upon each other, being invironed and shut up from the rest of the world. They speak a higher style then the vulgar, wherein all their learning is couched ; and many of them esteem themselves more noble then the Emperour, being indeed dignified with higher and more honorable Titles then their Sovereign. Printing and Gun-powder was in use in this Nation above one hundred and fifty years before we in Europe had the knowledg of them: these they learned from the *Chineses*, who have had them long, as their Histories and Chronicles (filled with wonders, too long for this short relation to mention) do abundantly witness.

An Extract out of the
Governour of *Indiaes*
Letter to the Over-
seers of the East-In-
dia-Company, tou-
ching the Traffick in
Japan.

THis year trade (as we mentioned in our last of the twelfth of this instant) hath been but little advantageous, by reason of the disasters at Sea, which hath much weakened and put behinde hand the India Capital or Stock, which will without question suddenly change. God preserve the Company from more misfortunes at Sea. We hope, if your Honours will second us this following year with fifteen Tonne of Gold and Merchandise, we shall be able to make a return of thirty, being the Indian Commodities may probably rise more then they are now fallen: *Japan* will in all appearance yeild us eleven or twelve Tonne profit; *Persia* at least three hundred

hundred thousand ; and the other indulgent *Cantors* , above three Tonne. The Dutch expences, which arose this year, will certainly fall, being the building and fortification of the dwellings and pack-houses come to cease. There is but little hope of advantage from the Enemy ; nor shall we be able to *Cape* much this year about *Spirito Sancto* , by reason of the *Portugals* sufficiency. We will endeavour to better all things by an advantagious negotiation, hoping much from *Japan* : It were not strange if the *Chineses* were hindered to frequent that Kingdom, or diverted by us : They profit fifty Tonne of Gold every year and more by the *Japan* trade ; for they transport more then for one hundred Tonne yearly ; God grant that we may enjoy this trade alone, and that the Gold Mine in *Formosa* flourish, that the ingaged may once enjoy the fruits of their charges and pains by rich returns, without sending any monies out of the low Countries. I send you herewith a Copy of *Siragewondenne* , Governour of the Island *Kisma* in *Naviga-sacki* , where the Companies Servants and Factors do reside and trade ; his Letter, which I mentioned in my last, be pleased to consider of the contents thereof, with such as understand the affairs of *Japan*. It seems if we do not meddle with Christianity, but behave

have our selves modestly , they will grant us the more liberty , and greater freedom in trading: we will order all things to the most advantage of the Company ; and endeavour for as much as it shall be possible , that we may enjoy all , or at least the principal trading (which God grant) of *A Formosa* , a Land enriched with Gold , near *China* , and lately conquered by the *Castilians*.

A short Relation of the
Profits and Advantages
which the Dutch
East - India - Company
in *Iapan* might acquire,
in case they could compass
the *China* Trade
and Commerce : By
Leonard Camps.

MAny men are of opinion, and have by experience found , that during the time it pleased the mighty States General of
G the

the united Provinces, and his princelie Excellencie, to give their Subjects leave to saile into the East-India, for the increase of Traffick and the common good, that to what place, or by what Prince soever we come, we were admitted and received for fear of harm, or for hopes of profit; and yet I believe, as my Predecessours did before me, that his Imperial Majesty of *Japan* suffered us not to harbour and to trade freely in his Countrie upon these considerations, but only to shew the goodness of his Nature, the greatness of his Dominions, and his civilitie to Strangers, especially those Nations who came into his Countrie as Friends. His Majesties goodness to Foraigners appears abundantly in this, in that he still suffers the *Chineses* to traffick in his Land, favouring them in his impositions more then his own Subjects; whereas they persecute the *Japaners* in their own Territories as Enemies, having set a price upon their heads, which by mistake hath cost many a Portugal his life: further his ambition doth not extend beyond the bounds of his own Empire, and contenting himself with those confines God and Nature hath prescribed him; he wages no war against his Neighbours, neither suffers his Subjects to molest or disturb any out of his obedience. No foraign Princes fall out by
his

his instigation; neither doth he give or demand help or assistance upon any account. His power and might consists in the vastness of his Kingdom, and multitudes of his Souldiers; he hath arms at will, Castles that seem impregnable, Provisions in abundance, and Treasure without end. The plenty of Gold, Silver, Copper, Iron, Lead, and Pewter Mines is great; and the abundance of Silk, Cotton, Hemp, and thousands other commodities incredible. Brisley, this Countrie wants nothing, having no need of its neighbours at all; whence his Majesty never sought to foraign Princes, and yet received all that came or sent to him with all imaginable civilitie and kindness.

The Spaniards and Portugals, not ignorant of the commodious situation, might and riches of the Japanish Empire, were no less earnest in the enlarging of their own state, planting the Christian Religion, and advancing their traffick there, where other Princes seemed to desire. *Don Iohn*, the first of that name, and the tenth King of *Portugal*, was very industrious in this *Disquisition*; his Countrey men having in fourscore years, wherein they continued their commerce in *Japan*, brought it so far, that *Manilha* was raised from nothing by this negotiation, and *Malacca Goa*

and several other places bettered and enriched by it; witness their great Cargafoons, and yearly returns more or less, as it happeneth, amounting one with another to near a Million and a half of Ducats; never gaining less then fifty, and for the most part seventy five in the hundred, as we found by experience in that time that our East-India-Company shared in this rich commerce. The *Mavans* and *Portugals* fetched these vast profits yearly, which they gained in four or five moneths, whereof they spent some twenty daies in going and coming upon the Sea, the *Japan* principal being but one fifth part. Let every one consider, whether this noble Negotiation and sweet returns, are not capable to indear these Merchants to this rich Country: Besides this, their Religion, which by the zeal and industry of their Priests grew strangely there, so that they had four hundred thousand souls at once upon a list, which made them in hope to become absolute Masters of the whole Kingdom; this they purposed, which had been absolutely effected, but that they wanted an head; and were traversed in this great design by the Netherland Ministers. If they had brought *Japan* to their devotion and obedience, as God be praised they have not, it is no hard matter to conceive the advantages they would have gotten

ten by it, and what they might further presumed, upon so mighty an acquisition. But my design is not to insist upon this matter, only to undeceive those men who blindly out of prejudice or ignorance, not only slight the Japanish trade, but have given out, that it is neither useful nor profitable for the East-India-Company. But to return where we digressed; it is not imaginable that the *Portugals* and *Spaniards* are such fools, as to search out places to seat themselves in, and to carry on a trade, where there is no advantage to be got; that they have gained infinitely, and should still if they were not hindred by us, is visible: It is evident that they of *Mavan* are at present rich, that their City is strong, and their Houses like so many Palaces, wherein they live like earthly gods in pleasure and plenty, whereas they were before but bare and needy. Neither did the ill treatment they lately received in *Japan*, nor the persecutions of the Women Catholicks there, nor the loss of *Andrew Plafoes Carack*, who was assaulted and sunk, by the Emperours command and forces, before *Nangasack*, nor the danger they incur by our ships at Sea, can deter or oblige them to quit this Kingdom: when the danger to saile thither with great Vessels was too great, they trucked with little ones; which this proud Nation,

who aspire to an universal Monarchie, would never have done, if it had not been for the certaintie and sweetnes of the profit: What can our People alledge to the contrarie? is it not as we have formerlie said, that the door is not open for us alone, but for all other Nations who come as friends to negotiate in his Majesties Dominions. During our abode in *Japan*, we have been treated with very great civilitie; although we have not profited so much as the *Portugals*, yet we have gained more honour then they; we have not lost at all, and our winnings have been proportionable to our Cargafoons; we have had several commodities thence, and much useful provisions; we have repaired many of our old Ships in their Havens, and furnished them with all manner of necessaries: The Fleets we send from hence every year to the *Manilbas* against our common Enemy, return without being questioned by any, and dispose of their prizes at pleasure, paying nothing but the ordinarie rites, which is onlie a small present to the Emperour; what Christian Prince in Europe would treat us so well, and molest us so little? Now that it hath pleased the Almighty, that we by the good conduct of our General *J. P. C.* do not onlie bridle them of *Maccan*, but likewise hinder them to saile to *Japan*,

Japan, and so keeps them from that rich trade they enjoyed so many years; it remains onlie that we still keep them out, to which purpose especial care must be had to use the *Japaners* well and civillie; to hinder their detriment, and not to dispise or misuse them in any kinde, but to suffer every one to pass and re-pass where their business calleth them, aiding and assisting them with all possible endeavour and friendship. We must not be less careful then the *Portugals* have been, to furnish this Kingdom yearlie with all manner of commodities, bringing rather more then lesser; for if it take according to the Generals design, which God grant, they of *Japan* will be deprived of the *Maccan* commerce, as also of their trafficking into divers others places, *Kouthinchina*, *Kamboia*, *Siam* and *Manilha*, from which places they received betwixt two and three thousand picols of Silk every year, besides several other necessary commodities, which they will be obliged to take from us, as being nearer and at their own homes. We must above all things cherish his Majesties inclination to us wards, and have a special care to remove all causes of discontent that may arise; for if this mighty Prince conceive the least distaste against us, and refuse us his friendship and correspondence, it will be the onlie obstacle to hinder

us to compass our design; in this case we have more reason to fear the *Japanners*, then either the *Spaniards* or *Chineses*, as being no less potent and couragious then they, and powerful enough to drive us out of the *Piscadores*, or where we should endeavour to settle; but if it must be so, we should be able to help our selves without *Japan*, but not in so convenient a place, as we have mentioned already, which we shall finde true in case we fall out with them, which God forbid. Our Governour hath shewn us a way, and recommended it to us, which if followed, we may easilie continue in his Majesties favour, and once enjoy the long desired sweet profits which our enemies have had so many years undisturbed; and I doubt not, but by one way or other we shall be able to get the unvaluable *China* trade into our hands.

The *China* trade being then in our dispose, all we have to do, is to send yearly into *Japan* such Cargasoons as we shall hereafter mention; in the doing whereof, we shall not onlie please his Majestie, and enjoy the sweet favouring profits which our enemies will be deprived of, but shall be able to satisfie our Masters out of the gain, without any expence of theirs, it being more then probable, that their yearlie return will amount to an hundred
Tonne

Tonne of Gold, which is ten Millions sterling, or more every year. *Japan* will be more useful for us, and more profitable then it hath been to the *Portugals*, if your affairs succeed according to our Governour Generals meaning; for besides the Silk which the *Portugals* brought from *Maccan*, the *Japanners* fetched themselves betwixt two and three thousand Picols yearly, as we have already observed from *Courchinchina*, *Courchin Mamilha*, and other places more, whereof they are hindred and receive none, but what we bring them, and at such rates as we shall please to put upon them.

The Cargafoon which I should require, and which would be vented there infallible with profit, out of which our Masters might have so much *China* ware as they demanded, without the expence of a penny, is as followeth.

3000 Picols of white raw Silk, at 180 Royals of eight the Picol, amounts to R. 540000.

260 Ditto fine soddan Silk, at 200 Royals the Picol R. 52000

500 Ditto raw Silk, in short and long strings, at 180 Royals the Picol R. 60000.

100 Ditto white Silk, at 290 Royals the Picol R. 20000.

100 Ditto Flos Silk at 190 Royals the Picol

15000 pieces of black Single, at 2 Royals
the piece R. 77500.

20000 Ditto coloured Armofync, at one
Royal and a half the piece R. 30000.

2000 Ditto black Sattin, at 8 Royals the
piece R. 16000.

5000 Ditto good black Damask, at 6 Roy-
als the piece R. 30000.

Transport for the following K.

5000 Ditto ordinary good black even Sat-
tin at R. 30000.

2000 Ditto fine black even Velvet, at 8
Royals the piece R. 16000.

5000 Ditto white even Sattin woven flat,
at 4 Royals the piece R. 20000.

2000 Ditto black fine watered Grogrum,
at 8 Royals the piece R. 16000.

2000 Ditto white Damask, at three Royals
and a half the piece R. 7000.

3000 Ditto white Cramofy red Damask, at
5 Royals the piece R. 15000.

5000 Ditto Cramofy red L. at 4 Roy-
als the piece R. 20000.

3000 Ditto paynted Calicoes at four Roy-
als and a half the piece R. 13500.

3000 Ditto white L. at 3. Roy-
als the piece R. 9000.

2000 Ditto paynted Calicoes at three
Royals and a half the piece R. 9000.

5000

5000 Ditto fine black Stuffs of all sorts,
worked with Gold and Silver, at ten Royals
the piece R. 50000.

105000.

This afore said *China* Carga soon being sent
yearlie to *Japan*, I engage my self to my Ma-
sters, so long as God gives me health, to serve
them for nothing, unless I return them in four
or five moneths time, in good Silver, One
million eight hundred and fifty thousand Roy-
als of eight; if that be not enough, let them
send more and the gain will be greater. We
have taxed the goods at twenty *per cent* higher
then they will possibly be bought for, and that
purposelie, as knowing well that these goods
will first cost us more then the *Portugals* had
them for at *Maccan*, by reason of the fort
and Carga soon that we must necessarilie hold
for the *China* trading. I know it will fall heavy
for our Masters, considering their other ex-
pences, to furnish us with so much as is here
required; if it cannot be done at once, let
them furnish us with the half; the business can
be so ordered here, that one third part of the
Japans, and another third part of the *Por-
tugals* principal be imployed, so that the Ma-
sters need furnish but the rest, which they
may gaine back (and all charges paid) in six
moneths. The Overseers of the Company
do.

do intimate by their Letters, their earnest desires to have great Cargafoons sent yearlie home, for the easing of those vast expences they are at; by reason whereof it happens, to the great grief of our Governour General and Council of *India*, that many places fail oftentimes to furnish the desired *quota*; the which hath obliged me to deliver this by writing to their Honours, if they be pleased to hearken to it, and furnish our demands yearlie, without delaying; if it cannot be found out of the *China* commodities alone, it must be supplied with European wares, as also with some Nutmegs, Peper, Eliphants-teeth, and the like, that we may shew that our givings out to our Masters shall not onlie reap the afore said profits, but their Servant shall gain praise and thanks, to the honour of the Netherland Nation. Sixty four Tonnes of Gold and a half may be yearlie gained by these *China* Silke Wares, besides other Commodities.

A description of the pompous and magnificent reception of the D E Y R O in the City of Meaco, when he came to visit his Imperial Majesty of Japan, on Octob. 25. 1626. Written by Coenraed Krammer, deputed from the East-India-Company to that Court, and then present.

IN the year 1626. having had audience on the twentieth of *October*, I took my leave of both the old and young Emperour, four daies before the feast; which seemed strange to them that knew it, being their Majesties were so intent in their preparations for the *Deyro's* reception; but these men did not know how desirous the Emperour was to dispatch the *Hollanders* before the feast: however the *Si-*

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~~ambax~~ and *Portugal* Ambassadors had not as yet been publickly received, and all by reason of the present business, which took up the whole Court, in so much that they were deferred till that was past; we being therefore dispatched, had the more leasure and desire to see this solemn entertainment, and the rather, being invited to a stay by the Lord of *Firando* and *Cackusymondonne*. On the twenty fourth we went towards the Emperours Palace, attended upon by all our Servants; and having hired a place from which we might see the whole procession, we were forced to stay there that whole night, by reason of the great crouds of people that passed that way; on the morrow following, being the twenty fifth, as soon as the day appeared, we saw an innumerable company of people, who filled the way up betwixt the Emperours Palace and the *Deyro's* Court. The streets were made very even, and strewed with white sand, and railed in on both sides, and guarded all along by Souldiers of both their Majesties and of the *Deyro's*, all clothed in long white vestments, with head-pieces of black wax, and armed each with two Sables and a Pike, for defence of the passage through which the Coaches and Horses were to march; all running waters and ditches were covered with boards

boards and planks; and scaffolds were raised on both sides the way for the spectators.

The first that passed were Servants that belonged to the *Deyro* and Emperour, with many *Palanquimos* or Porters, who carried the *Deyro's* baggage, packt up in great square Wax Chests (the covers whereof were painted with the *Deyro's* Arms in Gold) to the Emperours Court: These were accompanied with a great train of Attendants, who were again followed by six and forty *Palanquin* Stooles or Sedans, wherein the Women belonging to the *Deyro's* Wives were carried; these Sedans were all of them curiously wrought of bright white wood, six foot high, laid with plates of Copper, and finely painted, each of these being carried by four lusty fellows; after them went one and twenty Sedans or *Norimons*, (for so they call them here) covered with black Wax and gilded, and behinde them some twenty seven more whose doors and windows were all gilded; some of the *Deyro's* chiefe Lords were carried in these, each of them having a *Quirosol* wholly gilded, and covered with a very rich covering, carried before them; these Lords were attended by one hundred and eight Pages in white liveries; behinde them marched twenty four Gentlemen on horse back, clothed and armed in their *Habillements* of war; their

their Head-pieces were of Wax, with little black feathers behinde; they were clothed in Coats with great wide sleeves; their Breeches were long and small, made of even Sattin of all colours, embroydered with Gold and Silver very richly; they had little black Boots, gilded with stripes of Gold; their Arms were gilded; Sables with Bows and Arrows were girt to them, with great rich embroydered Scarfes, whose ends hung over on each side of the Horse; their Horses were goodly and beautiful, with little heads, little eares, and short bodies; their Saddles were all waxed or gilded, the seats being of embroydered works or Tigers skins; the maines of these Horses were twisted, or platted, with Silver and Gold, the breasts and buttocks were adorned with nets of Silk, whose strings hung low; they had gilded horns on their foreheads, and were shod with interwoven Silke in stead of Iron; every Horse was lead by two Foot-men, two great *Quirosols* made of fine linnen, and covered above with red cloth, with fringe round about it, being born before, and serving to cover the Horse, which was further attended with eight Pages, or Servants, all in white liveries, and armed as the manner is, with two Sables or Svwords: And thus these Horse-men rode by paces, from the *Deyro's* to the Emperours

perours Palace in very good order. These were followed by three rich Coaches, in which were the *Deyro's* three principal Wives; each of these Coaches were four fathoms high, two fathoms long, and one broad, being beautified with Wax figures, and enameled with Gold; there were three windows on each side, and two before, being hung with rich curtains; the entrie was behinde the Coach, made like the gate of a Palace, with chambers on both sides; all under the windows seemed black Wax; the rands of the wheels were gilded, and the spoakes finely turned and in-laid with Gold; when they moved, they seemed to turn against a Looking glass, by reason of the clearness of the glittering Wax, which was goodly to behold; These wheels were covered with pent-houses very artificially and richly wrought, every corner of them being platted with fine Gold; the top of all, or cover, was black Wax, whereupon the *Deyro's* arms were curiously done in Gold; every one of these great Coaches, or rather Towers, were drawn with two great strong Bulls, covered with nets of red twined Silk, which were lead by four foot-men clothed in white; each of these Coaches valued at seventy thousand Tayles, a Tayl being full five English shillings. The train of Pages, all

H

clothed

clothed in white, that attended these Ladies, was numerous, each of them having a gilded foot-stool, and a pair of Wax slippers carried behind them. Then followed twenty three *Norimons*, or *Palanquins*, being made of white Wood, and plaited with Copper, wherein were the Servants of these three Ladies, each waited upon with a great *Quirosol*, two Pages, and four Porters to carry them. Behinde these followed sixty eight of the *Deyro's* Gentlemen on horse-back, clothed and armed as the former; they marched by two and two, being accompanied by a great train of Servants, Slaves, Pages, Foot-men and Pike-men.

The aforesaid Cavalry being passed, there followed

Two gilded Sables, the extremities of them being plaited with Gold.

One great Vier-werck, rich and curious.

One Peyl Compas, exceeding great and costly.

Two great gold Candlesticks.

Two great Eben Pillars.

Three small square Tables, or Desks, of black Eben wood, the corners being plaited with Gold.

Four great Tables of the same.

Two great faire Plates, or Dishes, wrought in Gold.

One pair of wax Slippers.

Two

Two beautiful Coaches, equal in form and fineness with the former, followed these rarities: The old Emperour, *Sadosienminano Tonosindelanda*, sat in the first; and in the other the young Emperour, called *Oendesienminano Tonoyuemyisamma*. Fourscore pairs, or couples, of Gentlemen marched on foot before these Coaches; they were armed each of them with two Sables and a Pike, being all proper stout men, and serve for the Emperours guards; four rich *Quirosols* were carried before their Majesties, and four men with Pikes cleared the passage; two beautiful Horses, richly trapped, were lead before the Coaches, on whose sides eight Men, armed with Bows and Arrows and long Pikes, did march in order to wait upon them. The Emperours Brothers, and all the Princes and great Lords of *Japan*, followed on horse-back, clothed and armed as the former, save that some were richer then other, according to their births and qualities; there were one hundred sixty and four of these Grandees, the chiefe whereof, and those who immediately followed the Emperours, were

Owarny Cammy Samma, the old Emperours Brother.

Quyne Deymangon Samma, another of his Brothers.

Massammenemoet Nocammy Samma, yet another Brother.

Matsendeyro Thuykesnocammi Samma, Lord of *Canga*.

Matsendeyro Montsnocammy Samma, Lord of *Saisema*.

Matsendeyro Iondonne.

Matsendeyro Symonsquedonne.

Matsendeyro Quonnenochwuchoo.

Turegano Deynangono Cammy Samma, the young Emperours eldest Prince.

Myttotchonango Samma, the old Emperours Brother.

These ten Lords rode immediately behinde the Emperours Coach, each by himself, attended with a numerous train of Gentlemen, Pages, Pikemen, &c. according to their state and quality: The rest of the Lords followed by couples, two and two, the best of them taking the left hand, which in this Countrey is the upper and best place; *Ouwaydonne*, the old Emperours chief Councillor, and *VVanradonne*, the young Emperours chiefe Councillor, led the van of the remaining one hundred and fifty four Lords, all of them marching in good order, great state and magnificency and rarely mounted upon brave Horses, which pranced and curvetted all the way. Four hundred armed Souldiers, all in white Liveries, followed

followed after these, two by two; and after them six new fair Coaches, though not above half so great as the other, and only drawn by one Ox, but proportionably beautiful; the *Deyro's* Concubines sat in these, who were again followed by thirty four pair of Gentlemen on horse-back, attended with many Servants and Slaves. There was yet another Coach wherein the *Deyro's* Secretary rode, accompanied with thirty seven Gentlemen on horse-back; then followed the *Norimons*, which carried several of the *Deyro's* Grandees, whereof fifteen were of black Wood, inlaid with white Ivory; thirteen of black Wood, adorned with Wax and Gold; and eighteen wholly done over with black Wax. Forty six great gilded *Quirosols*, with their attendants, followed these *Norimons*; and behinde them fifty four Gentlemen, being the *Deyro's* Musitians, with several Instruments, as Pipes, Tabours, Cimbals, Bells, and some stringed ones which are not known amongst us. The *Deyro* himself followed these Musitians, sitting in a great square Edifice, surrounded with drawing doors and windows on each corner; this lodge was about nine foot high, its cover being round, and in the middle a gilded Ball, whereon stood a Cock with his wings spread, of pure Gold: This structure was very beautiful, being adorned on

all sides with carved Images, its angles plaited with pure Gold, and the roof of it intimating the Heaven, with Sun, Moon and Stars. There were fifty Persons, all Gentlemen belonging to the Emperours, clothed with long white Robes, and Wax Head-pieces, that carried this ambulatory Pallace: Forty Gentlemen arttically dressed, although armed with European Head-pieces, and Pikes gilded at the ends, went before the *Deyro*, and these were of his Life-guard. One of his principal Lords did immediately follow him, armed as the other, bearing in his hand a Shield stuck full of Arrows; then came forty great *Quirosols*, all covered with fine white linnen, and belonging to the aforesaid Guards: These were again followed by thirteen great Wax Chests, carried by the Palanquyn Porters: And lastly, the whole procession was closed with four hundred persons all in white vestments, marching six in a ranke in very good order. The *Deyro* and his Traine were no sooner past, but the evening came on, and an innumerable company of people of all sorts: the Stages and Houses which had been filled with Spectators, had disgorged their burthens in the Streets; so that the multitude was so immensely great, that very many disorders happened, as cutting of purses, stealing, murthering and robbing each other

Other; very many were stifled in the crouds, and such as but once fell, were sure never to rise, being troden to death: The noise all night was so great, as if the City had been in an uproar; and the insolencies grew to that height, that many persons of quality, who could not get out of the throng, or were retiring to their houses, were set upon, and very many of them spoiled and murthered: among others, the Lord of *Firandos* Secretary saw his Servant robbed, and a rich Cabinet of his taken from him, before his own face, whilest he himselfe had much ado to defend himself from the violence of these assaulters. We were forced, with our Servants, to quit our stage, and put our selves into the crowd, because of the night, and the danger to continue where we were, which we durst not do without running the hazzard of being murthered; the preass was so great, that we were borne up by the people most of our way, being but seldom able to put a foot upon the ground; yet at length, by Gods great blessing, we got all (without any considerable loss) safely to our lodgings.

The *Deyro* and his Wives were lodged three daies and three nights in the Emperors Palace, being served by their Majesties and their Brothers, and the greatest Princes of their Court, every meale consisting of one hundred and

forty services. This feasting being done, the young Emperour gave the *Deyro* these following presents:

Three thousand Boates of Silver, each of four Tayls and three Marfes.

Two rich Sables.

Two hundred *Japan* Gowns.

Three hundred pieces of wrought Sattin.

Twenty picols of raw Silk.

One great piece of Calombacq.

Five great Silver pots full of Musk.

And ten beautiful Horses with their accoutrements.

The old Emperour gave him

Two hundred pieces of Gold, each worth fifty four Silver ones.

One hundred *Indian* gowns richly wrought.

Two great Silver pots full of Musk.

Five Catti Calombacq.

Two hundred pieces of red Silk.

Five Silver pots full of Amber Greece.

And five brave Horses with their accoutrements.

His Secretary had given him

Three hundred Boats of Silver, equal with the other in worth.

And twenty *Indian* Gowns.

A Description of the
Government, Might,
Religion, Customes,
Traffick, and other re-
markable Affairs in the
Kingdom of *SIAM*:
Written in the Yeare
1636. by *Joost Schouten*,
Directour of the East-
India - Company in
that Countrey.

S *SIAM* is a famous and potent King-
dom, scituate upon the continent of
Asia eighteen degrees Northern Lati-
tude, where it bordereth upon the
Countries of *Pegu* and *Avat* twelve de-
grees; it extendeth it selfe Westward to the
Bengasche sea of *Martavan* to seven degrees,
where it borders upon the Kingdoms of *Pay*
san-

any and *Queda*; Southward from the *Ber-*
wasche to the *Parany* Ocean; this Coast turns
 Northward to thirteen degrees, making with
 its bowing the Gulf of *Siam*; thence the Coast
 runs again Southward to twelve degrees, and
 leaving the Sea terminates Eastward upon the
 Desert of *Cambodia*, and the Kingdoms of *San-*
gonia, *Tangou*, and *Langjang* to eighteen de-
 grees, even to *Ava* and *Pegu*; so that the form
 of this Land is like an halfe Moon, and con-
 taineth in its circuit four hundred and fifty
 Dutch miles, one Dutch mile makes six En-
 glish. This Country (which is in many places
 mountainous, woody and moorish, especially
 towards the Sea, although for the most part
 even and clay, and is likewise full of all sorts
 of Beasts and Fowls, and Rivers replenished
 with abundance of Fish) hath where it bor-
 dereth upon the *Benga* and *Siams* Seas many
 Islands, Bays, Havens and Rivers most com-
 modious for the receipt of great and small Ves-
 sels; I shall not particularize all, only mention
 the chief River, as the most frequented Haven
 of the whole Kingdom: This River (called
 by the name of *Menam*, or the Mother of Wa-
 ters) is great, wide, and very long, its course
 being not known unto them. It passeth from
 the North Southward very swiftly through the
 Land of *Ava* and *Tegu*, and several Provinces
 of

of *Siam*, until that it discharge it self by three mouthes into the Sea of *Siam*; it partaketh of the nature of those famous Rivers *Ganges* and *Nilus*, flowing once a year so high that it covereth most part of the Countrey, making it incredibly fruitful, and destroying by this inundation (which continueth four or five moneths) all obnoxious vermin and creatures. The greatest mouth of this River, is that which lies most Eastward thirteen degrees and a half Northern latitude; and in the middle of the inlet, there is a great flat, or sand, a mile long, that crosses the entry of the River five or six foot deep at low water, but at heighth is fifteen or sixteen, and in the Winter moneths, when the the floods are great, there is ordinarily seventeen or eighteen foot and more; great Ships that go deep, are forced to anker at four, five, or six fathoms water without this banck, the ground being clay and good; but those that pass this flat at high water, enter the River without any more danger of runing on ground till they come to the Town of *Banckock*, six Dutch miles upwards; then the River grows narrower and more shallow, Ships drawing eleven or twelve foot water, being scarce able to mount to the City of *India*, where they are sometimes forced to stay till the moneths of *September*, *October* and *November*, for water

to return. The Country is generally well peopled, especially the lower part of it, being full of Villages and Towns; the principal whereof are *Indica*, *Picelouck*, *Sourckelouk*, *Capheng*, *Soutcethay*, *Kephinpet*, *Conseyan*, *Pytsyay Pitfidi*, *Lydure*, *Tenou*, *Mormelon*, *Martenayo*, *Lygor*, *Bordelong*, *Tannassary*, *Banckock*, *Pypry*, *Rapry*, *Mergy*, and several other, all which are governments and heads of Provinces; besides these there are many Cities and Burroughs full of people, which I omit as superfluous. The City of *Indica*, the Metropolis of the Kingdom, and seat of the King and his chiefest Nobles, is situate upon the River *Menam*, in a little round Island, encompassed with a thick stone wall, about six English miles round; the Suburbs are on the other side of the River, closely builded, and full of Temples and Cloysters, lying in a flat and fruitful Country. The Streets of the walled Town are many of them large, straight and regular, with channels running through them, although for the most part of small narrow Lanes, Ditches, and Creekes most confusedly placed; the Citizens have an incredible number of small Boats or Prawes, which come to their very doors, especially at floods and high water. The building of the Houses is according to the *Indian* fashion, slight, and covered with Tiles; but the City

is

is beautified with more then three hundred faire Temples and Cloysters, all curiously builded, and adorned with many gilded Towers, Pyramids, and Pictures without number. The Kings Palace is seated upon the River, resembling a little Town apart, great and magnificent, many of its Buildings and Towers being entirely gilded. This royal and admirable City is perfectly well seated, and populous to a wonder, being frequented by all Nations; and is likewise impregnable, as not to be besieged but six moneths in a year, by reason of the innundations of the River, which covers the Countrey round with its overflowings. The Sovereignty and Government of *Siam* is in the King, a Prince of a Noble and ancient family, who hath been in possession of this Kingdom, and the neighbouring Provinces, many hundred of years; this Prince is absolute in his Dominions, disposing of War and Peace, Alliances, Justice, Pardons and Remissions, &c. at his pleasure; He maketh Laws without any advise or consent of his Council, or Lords, his will being the rule he walks by, unlesse his goodnesse descend sometimes to counsel with his *Mandoryns*, them of his Council; these sometimes deliberate upon his Majesties propositions, and present their result to him by way of humble supplication, which

which he confirms, changes or rejects, as he thinks good. He disposes Sovereignty of all the Dignities and great Offices of his Kingdom, without respect of persons, noble or otherwise, (except some of the Antientest and greatest Families) to such as have or may serve him well, whom he againe deprives of their honours for small faults; so that they are all his Slaves and Vassals, which the Great ones esteem an honour, and put in their titles. The King thus sovereignly disposing of all things, doth notwithstanding nothing without some appearance of reason, and conformity to the Laws of the Kingdom, which however antient, he by his usurped prerogative and power, doth interpret and bow to his Arbitrary will and pleasure. His Majesties Court and Train is exceeding great and glorious; He seldom shews himselfe to the People, and very sparingly to his Grandees and Officers of the Kingdom, which happens at certain appointed times and daies; when he gives them Audience he is richly clothed and crowned, sitting upon a golden Throne, at whose feet his Gentlemen and Attendants reverently kneel, accompanied with three hundred armed Soldiers of his Lifeguard: All, as well Strangers as Subjects, who have audience of his Majesty, whilst they are in his presence, must continually

usually kneele, with folded hands and heads hanging down ; when they speak to him, it must be in this humble posture, loading him with titles and praises; his Answers are esteemed Oracles, and his commands unchangeable ; so that he lives happy in all imaginable worldly pleasures, having many magnificent Houses up and down the Kingdom, as also other places, Tents and Pavilions: He eateth highly, but his drink is simple water, or *Coco*, all strong drinks being prohibited by the Clergy and the Laws, and esteemed scandalous. His Majesty goeth ordinarily by water with eight or ten very costly and fine Barges, each with eighty or a hundred rowers; he sits under a gilded Pavilion upon a Throne, accompanied with his Courtiers and other Barges, to the number of three or four hundred, with his Train and Guards waiting upon him; most of the great Ones follow the Court at such times, each in his rich gilded Barge or Prow; so that the whole train of them is twelve or fourteen hundred, and sometimes more. When he goes by land, he is mounted upon a gilded seat, and carried upon mens shoulders, the train being ordinarily the same, all marching in order and great silence; no body is seen in his way or sight, but upon their knees, with folded hands, and bowed heads and bodies;

this

this reverence better becoming a celestial Dietty, then an earthly Majesty.

Once every year, about the moneth of *October*, the King of *Siam* shews himself by water and land in state to his people, going to the principal Temple of the Gods, to offer there for the welfare of his Person and Kingdom, the manner follows: When he goes by land, the procession is led by two hundred Elephants, each attended vvith three armed men; these are follovv by many Musitians vvith Gonnies, Pipes and Drums, and a thousand men richly armed, and provided vvith Banners: Then march the great Lords of the Kingdom on horse-back, many of them vvearing Crowns of Gold upon their heads; and every one vvaited upon by sixty, eighty, or an hundred men on foot: Two hundred *Japan* Soldiers follovv these vvith bright Arms and rich Colours, and much noise of Instruments; then comes the Lifeguard vvith the King's Horses and Elephants, richly adorned vvith pretious Stones and Gold furniture; vvich is follovv by many Servants loaden vvith fruits and presents for the Sacrifice, accompanied vvith a svvet consort of Musick: These are again follovv by many of the great Ones on foot, vvith folded hands; as also some Crowned Grandees, vvhereof one carrieth the gilded Standard,

Standard, and the other the Svword of Justice; his Majesty followvs next in person in his royal Robes, sitting upon an Elephant, or else a gilded Throne, carried upon mens shoulders, and vvaited upon by many Lords and Courtiers; the Prince, or Heir of the Kingdom, followveth him; and then in order the Kings Wives and Concubins, seated upon Elephants in little enclosed Cabinets: lastly the ordinary Courtiers followv; the vvhole provision consisting of fifteen or sixteen thousand persons, having its rear brought up by six hundred armed men. But if the King go by vvater, then tvvo hundred Lords, each in his Barge, seated in a gilded Cabinet, vvith eighty or ninety Rowers, lead the van; these are followved by ten extraordinary rich figured Pravvs, or Barges, the vvwhich, as also the Oars, are all gilded, each having ninety or an hundred Watermen: The King is in the richest of them, sitting like an Idol upon a golden Throne, vvith his Lords in their humblest posture at his feet: the royal Banner is borne by one of these Grandees, at the head of the Barge, in state. The King's Brother followveth next vvith his Train; and after him his Majesties Wives and Concubins, in gilded Cabinets and Tents, each in their Barges apart: lastly the Gentry, Courtiers, Guards, and other Attendants followv, the
I vvhole

whole amounting to five or six and twenty thousand persons. The River is bordered on both sides vvith Boats, and an infinite number of People, vvho reverence and adore their King in his passage, vvith bended heads and folded hands.

The Dominion and Revenue of the Crown is great, amounting yearly to many Millions, arising out of in-land Commodities, as Rice, Sappang, Tin, Lead, Salt-peter; as also the profits of the Sand and Mountain Gold, which are only sold by the Kings Factors to forraign Merchants: He hath also his Customs for out-landish Wares; his Tributes and Presents from Subject-Princes, and Governours of Cities and Provinces, who know how much they must contribute; as also the profits of his Traffick with *Chormandel* and *China*: add to these the inland trade, carried on by his Factors in the City *Iudica*, or elsewhere, and his Majesty of *Siam* will be found to be one of the richest Princes of *India*. There are several Officers appointed for the receipt of incomes, who must account every year, and that exactly: Most of these monies are expended in building and repairing of Temples, in rewarding of merits, and defraying the publick charges of the Kingdom; the residue being brought into the Treasury, which is esteemed

esteemed rich and great. The Laws and Customs of *Siam* are strange (though orderly) in the succession of their Princes; when the King dies, it is not his Son, but his Brother who is Heir to the Crown; but in case he have no Brother, then indeed his Son steps in by course, whose Brothers do succeed successively; lastly all the Sons of the eldest Brother, who hath reigned, follow by turns, the Daughters being wholly excluded any pretence to the Government. But this order is not alwaies observed, the Scepter being sometimes usurped by him of the family who is most powerful, and most gracious with the people, which is the present Kings case; who having raised himself before his turn, caused all his Competitors, and their Adherents, to be slain, to the end he might peaceably enjoy what he had unjustly got, and leave the Crown to his Brother or Children after him.

The ordinary Justice, both Criminal and Civil, is administred through the Kingdom according to their ancient Customs and Laws, by Officers purposely appointed: But in the City of *Judica* they have (besides the ordinary Courts of Judicature) a Colledge of twelve Councillours, with one principal President, which doth definitively decide all Appeals, and other businesses, whether Criminal or Civil.

It is indeed permitted, though with extraordinary expence and cost, to appeal to the King and his Council, who ordinarily confirm and caule the former sentence to be put in execution. In this and lesser Courts, all Civil disputes are brought in by Lawyers; and the cause being pleaded, and witnesses examined on both sides before the Commissioners, the Secretary makes an extract of the whole, which being writ in a Book, it is signed by both Plaintiff and Defendant, or others deputed by them; that done the Book is sealed up, and kept by the Judge till next Sessions; at which time it is again opened in the presence of both parties, and their debates heard, noted, and sealed as before: So that the Lawyers, by their several exceptions, demurs and practices, do very often delay and keepe up the parties for many years; until at length, after much sollicitings and expence, the cause is anew opened and examined, and finally adjudged and ended by a full Colledge. But in Criminal matters, as injuries, robberies, murther, treason, or the like, the guilty, or suspected person, is apprehended, imprisoned, and examined; if he deny the fault against witnesses, or great presumptions, he is forced by torture to confession; all which being noted in a Book, and presented to the Judges, they immediatly proceed to sentence

Sentence and Execution ; except in Capitall crimes, such being reserved for the Kings pleasure, who either pardons, banishes, or causes the condemned person to be put to death, according to the sentence. Offences are ordinarily punished as they are more or less heinous, with cashiering, banishments into Desarts, slavery, confiscations, mutilation of hand or foot, burning in oyl, quartering, and other severe executions. Where the case is doubtful, no witnesses appearing, nor no strong presumptions against the accused, so that the Judge knows not how or what to do, he then permits both parties to try it out by common purgation ; either by ducking under water, holding their hands in boyling oyl, to go bare-foot upon hot coales, or to eat a mess of charmed rice ; this conjured mess being made up into balls, is given them by the Priest with much ceremony ; and he that can swallow it without casting it up again, and behaves himself in this and the other trials with most courage, is esteemed most innocent and acquitted, whilst the other, whether accuser or accused, is most severely punished, according to the nature of the crime.

The Kings power and military force by water and land, consists most of his own Vassals and Natives ; he hath indeed some few Strangers,

gers, as Moors, Malayers, and some five hundred *Japanners*, the most esteemed for their courage and fidelity, although the Prince now reigning drove them out of his Country, but they are now crept in again; so that most of his forces are *Siammers*, who must serve without pay, and be alwaies in a readinets, the hundredth, fiftieth, twentieth, tenth, or fifth man being levied, according to the Kings pleasure and occasions. Besides these, the Grandees have ordinarily some hundreds of men in their service, who wait upon them in the field; so that his Majesty can raise an Army when he thinks good, of two or three thousand men, with two or three hundred Elephants, Victuals, Ammunition, and other warlike Instruments; for all this his Armies seldom exceed one hundred thousand men, and not ordinarily forty or fifty thousand, as his affairs require, either for offensive or defensive. His foot are in reasonable good order, though merely armed with Bows and Arrows, Shields, Swords, Pikes, and a few Guns: the horse are not better, though generally armed with Swords, Shields, Bows, and Lances. Most of their force consists in some hundreds of trained Elephants, each of them furnished vvith three armed men; and they have a good quantity of Cannons, but do not well know how

to use them. At sea his Majesty hath several Gallies and Frigots well provided with great Guns, though the Seamen and Mariners are but pitiful. The Pravvs, vvherevvith the *Siammers* can stoutly scuffle, are vvithout number, but ill ordered and armed, and yet sufficient to deal vvith their neighbouring enemies as unskilful as they are, though far short of our European Vessels and Mariners either to fight or sail. These Mariners, especially vvhen their Princes have been brave, have conquered many of the neighbouring Kingdoms and Provinces; but being all human things, they have their vicissitudes, these victories did but follow the fortune of their favorites.

There hath of old been great vvars betvvixt them of *Pegu* and *Siam*, vvith various success: the King of *Pegu* pretending to the Monarchy of the neighbouring Kingdoms, vvich he hath formerly had, and as yet possesseth in part; so that the borders of these Kingdoms are quite ruined and unpeopled, and these Princes of late years content vvith inroads and sudden invasions, vvith small flying Armies of twenty or thirty thousand men, vvich they have ordinarily for defence of the frontiers. The *Siammers* have had likevvise vvars against other Princes, as the Kings of *Jangoma*, *Tangon*, *Langhs-jangh*, and lastly against the King

of *Siam*, and stoutly defended himself against those great Armies which were sent to reduce him; of late the Kingdom hath been in peace until the usurpation of the last deceased King, who having destroyed the true Heirs, and possessed the Government contrary to order, was likewise himself slain, together with his Brothers, and the Crown seized upon by another of the blood, who after several civil and foreign broils enjoyed it peaceably, and governs at present with great reputation and honour, continuing still his wars with them of *Pegu*, and the Rebel *Cambodian*.

This Prince, as well as his Predecessors, is kinde to Strangers, but respects and esteems the *Netherlanders* more then the *Portugals*; which the late King sufficiently testified, when upon the taking of a Holland Yacht in the River, Anno 1624. the Spanish Gally of *Don Ferdinando de Silva* was violently seized upon by his command, and restitution and satisfaction made to our Company; hereupon he was forced into a war with them of *Manbila*, and suffered much in his *China* voyages, which was well recompensed by the seasonable assistance of six Dutchmen of war, which were lent him to be employed against his Rebels of *Patany*.

The King hath more then three thousand tame Elephants in several parts of his Kingdom,
each

each attended by two or three men, wherein much of his greatness doth consist; for these Beasts are very much esteemed in *India*, especially when trained up to the wars, the rest are employed to carry Ordinances, Tents, and Provisions to the Camp. These creatures being great, very strong, and strangely docible, are taken in several parts of the Country, and disciplined as followeth: A Troop of fifteen or twenty tame the Elephants, which were taken when they were young, are driven into the Wilderness, with two or three fellows to observe them; the wilde ones upon sight of them, associate with them, one or two at once, which are driven with the rest insensibly into a great square building with high stone walls, and encompassed on the outside with trees which cover them; as soon as these Beasts are decoyed in, a great turnpike is shut behinde them, and gates to hinder their return; when they are entred further into the square place, the tame Elephants being brought up to it by their teachers, upon notice from them, slip away through other gates for the purpose; so that the wilde ones being left alone, are out of other little squares, whereof one is in the middle, vexed and tormented with all manner of inventions to make them angry and furious: the above mentioned squares are made of great thick

thick posts, well nigh two fathoms high, but so far distant from each other, that a man may creep betwixt them; so that when the Elephant with his running, turning and winding, seeks to revenge himself upon his tormenters, they save themselves behinde these posts; at length, when the beast is weary, and sufficiently tormented, there is a great door opened, into which he runs to save himself, which is immediatly shut upon him, and he restrained to a narrower prison, and is there bound to two or three tame Elephants, placed for the purpose; this done, they are led into a covered house, where cross planks being contrived under the wilde ones belly, they are hoysed up with pullies, and left as it were half hanging for some time; so that with this invention, and help of the tame ones, they are wholly tamed in three or four moneths, and rendred supple and useful. The Court is for the most part present (Galleries being builded for the Spectatours) at the taking and tormenting of the Elephants, which is most pleasant to behold. These Beasts are sometimes taken in the open fields, being environed with tame ones, and caught in snares and jins; but this way is dangerous although often practised; and both shew how fabulously Writers have informed the World in this particular.

A white Elephant (esteemed by the *Indians* a wonder in Nature) hath been found in *Siam*, and no other known Land; it is esteemed by the inhabitants as the Prince of the Elephants, and hath been so treated by the Kings of this Country, who have had of them in the Palaces many times, and caused them to be served in state, often visited them, and honoured their Vassals with more then ordinary respect. These white Elephants have formerly occasioned great wars betwixt the *Siammers* and their Neighbours; and some sixty years since against the King of *Pegu*, who proving victorious, did not only take the white Elephant prisoner, but obliged the King of *Siam* to become his Tributary; which yoke the following Princes did not only cast off, but gloriously revenge their Predecessours misfortunes. During my first residence in *Siam*, the then King took two young white Elephants, but both died shortly after to his great grief. This Nation believes somewhat more then humain nature of this creature, alledging they do not only respect him for his whiteness, but for his divine understanding; which appears in his pride and glorying when he is treated in state, and of his melancholy and sorrow when those honours are denied him, or that the black Elephant refuses him his obeisance.

The

The *Siammers*, as also the Neighbouring Nations, are all Idolaters and Heathens, so that they have every where great and little Temples and Cloysters for the service of their Gods; and the dwellings of their Priests. These Edifices are builded of Wood and Stone very Artificial and sumptuous, with gilded Towers and Pyramids; each of the Temples and Cloysters being filled with an incredible number of Idols, of divers materials and greatness, gilded adorned and beautified very rich and admirable; some of the Idols are four, six, eight, and ten fathoms long; amongst the rest there is one of an unimaginable greatness, being one hundred and twenty foot high. In these Temples and Cloysters there are many Priests and religious Men disciplined, and very obedient to their superiours, being all subject to the Arch *Flamin*, or Prior of the great Temple of *Iudica*, whose spiritual power is vastly great, though subordinate to the Kings. All the Clergy (whereof there are in *Iudica* alone at least thirty thousand) are clothed, without any remarkable difference, in yellow linnen clothes, having their heads all shorn. The learnedst amongst these are professed Priests, out of which the Regents of their Temples are chosen, (who are held in great esteem and reverence by the People) preaching, teaching, and offering up-
on

on their Feasts and Holy daies. These are prohibited the natural use of Women, upon pain of being burned; but they may alwaies, and at pleasure, upon declaration of their frailty or weakness, quit their frocks, and betake themselves to another life, which happens often amongst them. They have their morning and evening Song, Readings and other Services, celebrated in their Cloysters every day, and frequented by their society. They live upon the Alms and bounty of the King and great Ones, as also on the fruit which their Church Lands bring forth; but principally out of the sweet and labours of the Commonalty, who unanimously share with them, they sending every morning some Priests and Clerks out of their Cloysters, with begging bags to receive these donations and charity: Besides these Priests, there are a sort of old Nuns shorn, lodged in Chappels near the greatest Temples, who assist very devoutly in all their preachings, singings, ceremonies, and other Church services, but all voluntary, being tied to no rules or prescriptions. These Heathens do generally believe, (however differing in many particulars) that there is one upper God, with many lesser Deities in Heaven, who created all things: that the Souls of Men are immortal, and shall be rewarded or punished according to

to their merits and actions; the good dwelling with the God in bliss, whilst the wicked are tormented by the Devils that seduced them. Their Religion is principally founded upon these points, which have been delivered to them in writing many hundred years since, and confirmed with the testimony of many holy men, (whose memory they worship in their Images, which they have set up like so many lesser Deities) who by their charity to the Church, to the poor, and to all things that had life, they endeavored to merit Heaven, and avoid the dreadful punishments of the Devils. Those that are religious and superstitious in these, buy ordinarily upon Feast daies, multitudes of Birds and living Fish, bringing them to the Temple, and there give them their liberty; esteeming it a great sin to kill not onely men, but the more rude creatures, fancying the souls of deceased persons to be transmigrated into them: all other evils which Nature teaches us to be sin, they account so too, and are much preached against by their Priests. The chief Ceremonies of this Idolatry are, as we said, preaching, teaching, singing evening and morning Prayers, and offering of Sacrifice, which is done with torches, candles, incense, spices, and flowers at the altars of their images, which in their opinion represent the great God, the lesser

lesser Deities, and holy Men, whereby they think their wrath is appeased; to which end they celebrate with much solemnity at the new, full, and quarters of the Moon, as also several other extraordinary Festivals, with a fasting from any thing which hath had life, for three months together, they pray for the sick, and also the dead, who being first superstitiously shaven, anointed, charmed, and with much ceremony, as weeping, cutting of the hair of the head by the next friend, alms, prayers of the Priests, musick, plays, fire-works, and other shows (according to the quality and ability of the deceased) burnt with fire, their collected ashes are afterwards anointed and buried near the Temples, a Pyramid rich and magnificent being erected over them; so that these funerals are extremely expensive to the survivors, as well as honorable for the deceased. The Priests carry themselves very moderately to those of a contrary Religion, condemning no opinions, but believe that all, though of differing tenets, living virtuously, may be saved, all services which are performed with zeal being acceptable to the great God, especially theirs, they being convinced of its truth and innocency. This constancy of theirs makes them not easily to be drawn to any other persuasion, which hath been sufficiently attempted.

ed by the *Portugals*, whose industrious Priests omitted nothing for their conversion, and by the Mohometans who are no less zealous in their way, though with little or no success by either of them, and yet the Christians, as also the Mahometans, are both permitted the free exercise of their Religions in their Countrey. However these Heathen be thus religious, yet they fear and serve (although contrary to the opinion of most of their Priests) the very Devils, whom they believe to be the authours and causes of all evil, as the Gods are of every thing that is good and vertuous: They adore these unclean Spirits in their sicknesses and misfortunes, celebrating their feasts with instruments playing, and offering attoning sacrifices of fruits and living creatures: They are so strangely abominable in their gestures and actions, that it is not fit for a Christian either to see or write them; thus fondly searching his favour, whose indulgences do but plunge them deeper in their unhappy mistakes and errors. The people of this Countrey are reasonably well proportioned, brown and tawny; they are none of the best Souldiers, though proud and insolent in their victories; they are modest enough in their civil conversation, though naturally light, fearful, incredulous, dissimuled, deceitful, and very lying. The men are lazy and
slow,

flow, insomuch that the women, with their slaves, are forced (contrary to the customs of other Nations) to labour the earth, and do most of their husbands work, besides taking care for their families and houses, whilst the men follow their pleasure and divertisements abroad. They clothe themselves (both men & women) thin, according to the hot climat they live in; both sexes wear painted petticoats, the men covering their upper parts with a short shirt with half-sleeves, and the women with a thin cloth, both ends hanging over their shoulders to hide their breasts: They wear for ornaments gold pins in their hair, and rings of the same mettall on their fingers: This is the ordinary wear, high and low being all of a fashion, and not distinguishable but by the richness of their vestments, and the greatness of their trains, which they much glory in: The Gentry and Nobles have many slaves attending them when they go abroad, some ten, twenty, thirty, or more, according to their abilities and greatness; and not a Citizen, or his Wife, stirs in the streets without one or two of these slaves to wait upon them. Their houses are builded according to the fashion in *India*, of wood and reeds, and covered with *Coco* leaves, or tiles; the floors are raised three or four foot high, their appartements being commodious, though but slenderly furnished, only for sleeping, and dressing what is necessary for

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their refecti^on. Their diet is but mean, as rice, fish, and herbs; they drink water, though on Feast-daies they indulge more the common people, drinking ordinarily Arak, or Brandy-Wine.

They differ very much in their customs about marrying; great Persons need nothing but the consent of their Parents or Friends, (the Priests not intermedling at all) the ceremony ending in feasting and rejoycing. Husband and Wife may part again at pleasure, dealing their goods and children without further circumstance, and may re-marry if they think good, without fear of shame or punishment. A man may keep as many Concubins as he pleases, besides his Wife, though they are in some subordinacy to her, whose Children onely inherit, the other being contented with small portions for their subsistence. Great mens goods are divided after their deaths into three parts; one part for the King, the second for the Priests and their Funerals, and the third for their Children. The common People have other Customs; the Bridegroom buyeth his Bride for a sum of monies of her Father or Friends, whereupon the marriage is made and concluded with a little feasting; but they may divorce, like the great Ones, at pleasure, and marry again with the same liberty. The Children deal their deceased parents goods equally, except some little advantages for the eldest Son. They have many other Customs

in marriage and succession, too long and tedious to write. As for their Children, they send them to school at five or six years old, where they are taught to write and read; and rendered fit for Trades and other employments; some are continued in their studies by the Priests, their Masters, until they are called to Offices and advancements in the State, and then they cast off the yellow frock; others continue there out of hopes of being one day Heads of Temples and Schools, or sharing in the Priesthood.

The *Stammers*, who live in Towns and populous places, are either Courtiers, Officers, Merchants, Watermen, Fishermen, Tradesmen, or Artificers, each one containing himself in his vocation: The Country people brew, till, plant, and bring up swarms of Cattel, as Horses, Kine, Swine, Deer; and domestick Fowl, as Geese, Peacocks, Ducks, Hens, Pigeons, and other tame creatures, insomuch that provision is very cheap, notwithstanding the abundance of it which is sent into the neighbouring Provinces for their supply and use: They have Brick, Lime, Wood, and all materials for building of Churches, Forts, Houses, Ships, Prawes, Jonks, and other vessels in great quantities. The divers Towns of this Countrey have their several Trafficks and Commerce; in the chief City the trading is very good and free in its course; the principal commodities

ditieſ are Choromandes and Sura veſtments, all
 manner of *China* wares, Jewels, Gold, Benjamin,
 Gumlack, Wax, Sappang, Agerwood, Tin, and
 Lead, &c. as alſo vaſt numbers of Harts-ſkins,
 one hundred and fifty thouſand of theſe creatures
 being caught yearly in this Countrey, and ſold
 with much profit to the *Japanners*. They drive
 a great trade with all eating proviſions, eſpecially
 Rice, many thouſand Tuns being transported
 yearly by forraigners. This City, by reaſon of its
 great traffick, is frequented by ſeveral Nations,
 as the *Indians*, the more *Western Aſiaticks*, Eu-
 ropean Moors, and Chriſtian Merchants. The
 King himſelf is alſo a Merchant, and hath his own
 Ships and Factours trading to *Choromandel* and
China, being for that cauſe more favoured and
 priviledged then any other Prince; he likewiſe
 trafficks to *Pegu*, *Ava*, *Jongoma*, *Langs-jang*,
 and other places, beſides his negotiations at
 home, all which bring him incredible profit, and
 no ſmall diſturbance to private Merchants, all
 which do certainly manifeſt the great trade that
 is carried on in this Countrey. The Monies cur-
 rant is of very fine ſilver, of a round figure, and
 impreſſed with the Kings picture; the kindes are
 a Tielas, a Maſe, and a Fong, worth thirty pence,
 ſeven pence half penny, and four pence Engliſh,
 or near upon. They reckon ordinarily by *Catts*,
 each being twenty *Tayls*, or forty eight *Royals*
 of

of eight; and it is with this and no other coyn that they handle and trade with, save that there is a lesser called *Schulpkens*, or little Sheels, whereof eight or nine thousand go to a Fong, being brought out of *Manilha*, *Borneo*, and *Lequeo*, very useful for poor people.

Before the coming of the Netherlanders into the *Indiaes*, the *Portugals* had great correspondence and amity with this Kingdom, being in such esteem and honour by the King, that the Embassadors sent from their Vice-Roys, Governours, and Bishops of *Malacca* in *India*, were not only well received by his Majesty, but richly presented by him, and many of the residing *Portugals* in this Country advanced to great Offices and preferments; they had not only the free exercise of their Religion, but their chief Priest had also a monethly pension allowed him for his more splendid subsistence; thus they prospered here for many years, until the Dutch Company got footing amongst them, and gained upon them from time to time, by taking their Ships and interrupting their trade, with *Santhome* and *Neuagatan*, insomuch that they are at present very low and out of credit, occasioned more particularly by their taking of a Dutch Yacht by a Spanish Gally in the River of *Siam*, which the King took so highly, that he revenged it with his Arms, which produced a war between him and *Manilha*; and however the

Portugals

Portugals seemed unconcerned in this quarrel, yet they wholly lost their credit at Court, inso-much that the Bishop of *Malaccas* Vicar, their chief Resident there, is debarred of his usual access to his Majesty and his Ministers, whereas in former times they were esteemed the onely and chief Merchants of the whole Kingdom. This breach and difference between these two Nations, was fomented by the Dutch, and increased by several acts of hostility on the *Portugals* side, who took many of his Majesties Ships and Vessels at Sea; in revenge whereof, the *Portugal* Vessels were seized on in *India*, and all the present *Portugals* natives clapt up in prison, who were after two years restraint, upon a fictitious embassie, restored to their liberty; but this practice coming to light, occasioned the seizure of a *Castilian* and a *Portugal* Vessel in the Havens of *Ligor* and *Tanassary*, the men whereof were not released till after a two years restraint; but then indeed returned with his Majesties Letters to the Governours of *Manilha* and *Malacca*, with invitations of their former peace and traffick, where it is probable they may return, but questionable whether they shall ever recover their former credit and authority.

It is more then thirty years since the *Netherlanders* came first to *Siam*, and were admitted of by his Majesty; so that the Company have judged it

is necessary, for the cherishing their traffick and alliance with so mighty a Prince, to settle there; to which end they builded a house, or lodge, of wood in the City of *India*, where they trade in in-land commodities, and selling of clothes, as also buying of Harts-skins, Sappang, &c. which are sent yearly to *Japan*: the Company indeed hath not profited much, by reason of several misfortunes by this traffick; but they have gained more reputation then any Europeans besides, by the great friendship and correspondence which is betwixt them and the King; and also have had the benefit of transporting great quantities of all sorts of provisions in *Batavia*, which friendship, notwithstanding the several successions of the Princes, disturbing the Companies Cantore and Servants, is yet sufficiently conserved and continued, and ought in my opinion to be cherished, as absolutely necessary for the good and welfare of our Company, as also in regard of the Kings civil usage of us, and his aversion to the Spaniards, our common enemy; finally our factory established there in the year 1633. and trading during my four years direction, are so much corrected and increased, that the Company hath remarkably gained by them, with probability, with good managment of more signal advantages: To which end the General and Council of *India* caused in *Anno* 1634. a stone lodge, with fit pack-houses

houses, pleasant apartements, and a commodious landing place, to be builded on the borders of the River *Menam*, being one of the convenientest and best scituated of any that is unfortified in all the *Indiæes*.

And thus much we found good to discover of the customes and manners of the Kingdom of *Siam*, being my observations during my eight years residence in the chief City of the Country. I have followed the exact rules of truth, according to my best knowledge and diligence, in this short relation, remitting the curious to the more large and more particular discourses of better and more exact judgements.

FINIS.